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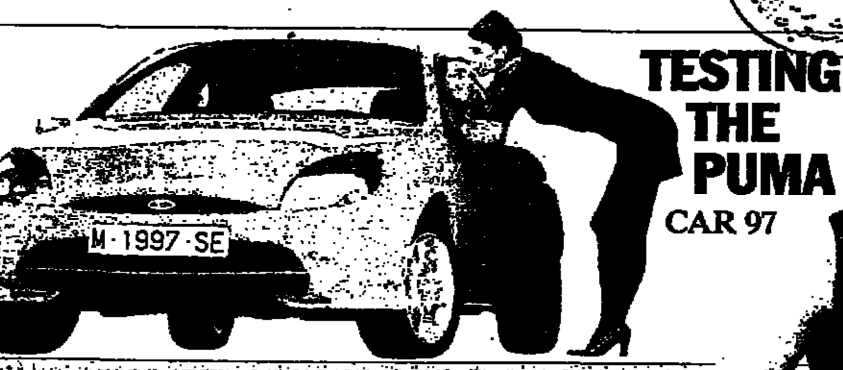

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Disgraced ex-minister to pay £2m costs after abandoning libel case

Aitken could face trial for perjury

By Michael Horsnell and Daniel McGrory

JONATHAN AITKEN, the disgraced former Cabinet Minister, last night faced the threat of imprisonment for perjury and perverting the course of justice after dramatically abandoning his libel trial when he was caught lying.

The former Chief Secretary to the Treasury will have to pay more than £2 million in costs after being forced to drop his High Court action against *The Guardian* and Granada Television. Last night the newspaper confirmed that it had written two letters, one to Barbara Mills, the Director of Public Prosecutions, and the other to Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner, demanding an investigation and the start of criminal proceedings against Mr Aitken.

A dejected Mr Aitken avoided the humiliation of attending the debacle on the thirteenth day of the hearing at the High Court, which ended in less than a minute. His counsel conceded defeat in just 20 words. Mr Aitken, 54, was last night in hiding.

His sudden capitulation effectively brands him a proven liar to the Prime Minister and the House of Commons and a "parasite" on Saudi businessmen and failed to clear his name of procuring prostitutes for them on two occasions.

Influential Conservatives, who for three years had backed Mr Aitken's protestations of innocence, said last night that he must leave public life forever and resign as a Privy Councillor.

Nothing has been seen of his wife, Lolicia, since the former MP announced their separation hours before he gave up his vain legal attempt to clear his name.

Outside Court Number Ten yesterday Peter Preston, the former *Guardian* editor who masterminded the investigation into Mr Aitken's corrupt activities, condemned him as "a serial liar".

Alan Rusbridger, the current editor, said *The Guardian* had been advised by the Director of Public Prosecutions to write to the Metropolitan Police Commissioner asking for Mr Aitken to be arrested for perjury.

He said the DPP would also be asked to consider charges of conspiracy to pervert the course of justice against Mrs Aitken, his 17-year-old daughter Victoria, his mother-in-law and Said Ayas, his Saudi business associate.

It was only damning evidence handed to the defence team on Wednesday that spared his wife and daughter from giving evidence that they were in Paris with Mr Aitken during his infamous "Ritz weekend" in September 1993, which is at the centre of allegations against him.

Mr Preston said: "Mr Aitken was lying about the Ritz from the start and the lies unravelled and unravelled and are lying on the floor.

"If there is one thing that sticks in my gullet, it's that anyone would use a schoolchild to back up a story like this. It's disgraceful by any standards."

Mr Rusbridger said: "We always wondered how low he would stoop. That was the *moment we knew.* Jonathan Aitken seems to have impaled himself on the simple sword of truth. For three years he has lied to newspapers, lied to the Cabinet Secretary, lied to the Prime Minister and lied to his colleagues. Now he has made his fatal mistake by lying on oath to the High Court."

It was an investigation by British Airways security staff, who were subpoenaed by the defence, which finally nailed the lie that Mr Aitken had enjoyed a family weekend in Paris en route to Switzerland where Victoria was to be introduced to fellow pupils at her new school.

In court he was accused of spending that weekend in secret meetings with close Arab business associates while he was Defence Procurement Minister.

During his eight days of testimony in the witness box the suave Mr Aitken, who lost his South Thanet seat in Kent at the last election, gave an elaborate account of how his wife had paid the hotel bill in cash.

In fact the Fr8,010 (£861) bill for his two-day stay in Room 526 was settled by Manoan Vidal, secretary to the treasurer to Prince Muhammad bin Fahd, eldest son of the Saudi king.

Investigating the Aitkens's travel arrangements Wendy Harris, a BA security expert, discovered through microfilm records proof that Lolicia Aitken and her daughter were never in Paris but had instead flown directly to Geneva on September 17, 1993. The detailed evidence showed their passport numbers, their baggage weight and where the tickets had been bought.

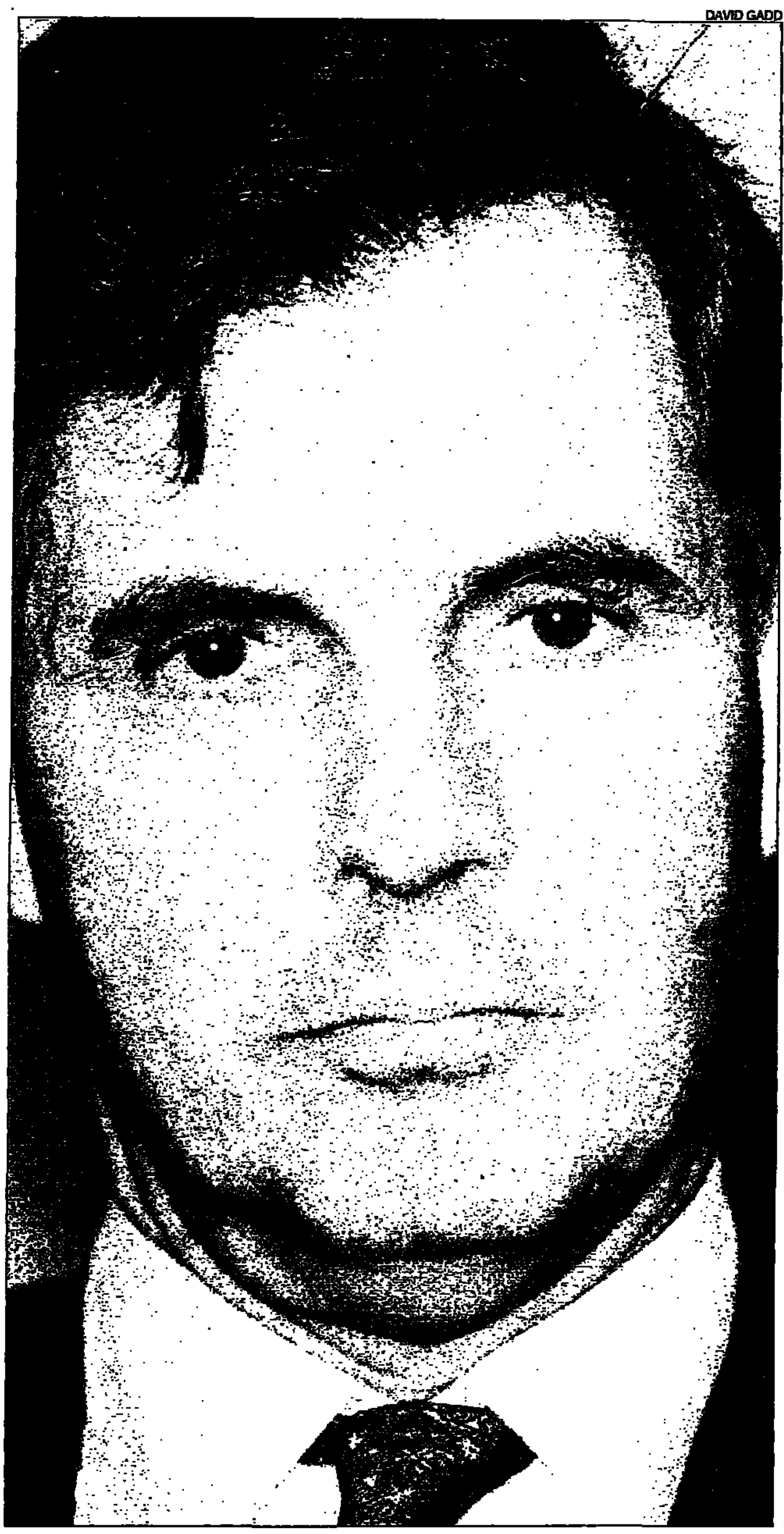
Mrs Aitken flew home three days later, leaving her daughter at school. Faced with such

Continued on page 2, col 1

Ritz

The Aitken Affair
Pages 2 & 3
Leading article
page 21

DAVID GADD



Aitken: in hiding after avoiding the humiliation of final day in High Court

Right's grip tightens as Redwood gets Shadow post

By Jill Sherman and Andrew Pierce

WILLIAM HAGUE last night gave John Redwood an important job in his Shadow Cabinet as he astonished the political world by bringing back Lord Parkinson as party chairman.

The new Tory leader drew a veil over Mr Redwood's deal with Kenneth Clarke in the final ballot of the Tory leadership contest by appointing him Shadow Secretary for Trade and Industry.

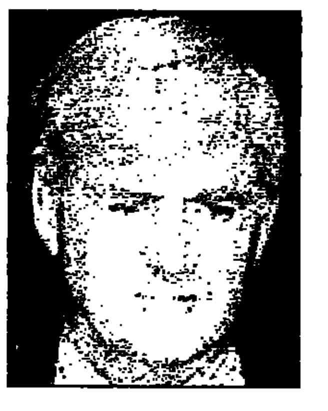
Jobs were given to all those leadership contenders who wanted them — Kenneth Clarke had declined — with top posts going to rightwingers. Stephen Dorrell was appointed Shadow Education and Employment Secretary — the only job so far given to the centre left.

But the two top Cabinet jobs go, as expected, to Peter Lilley and Michael Howard, the rightwingers who refused to rally behind John Redwood after the first ballot. Mr Lilley becomes Shadow Chancellor, a job he has long coveted, and Mr Howard, Shadow Foreign Secretary.

Labour immediately claimed that Mr Hague was "a prisoner of the Right," with the top economic jobs taken by arch Eurosceptics, Mr Lilley and Mr Redwood. Sources close to Mr Hague tried to play down the leading roles for the Right. But Lord Parkinson's appointment as party chairman was seen by many as evidence that Baroness Thatcher's legacy would endure.

Lord Parkinson, 65 and a close friend of Lady Thatcher, has been given a two-year Shadow Cabinet post to reorganise the party. The former minister and party chairman, who had to resign from government in 1983 over his affair with Sara Keays, will have a key role behind the scenes, the traditional role of media intermediary being downplayed. He will steer through reforms to make local parties more accountable by giving Central Office a greater role in choosing candidates.

Mr Hague announces the rest of his Shadow Cabinet today while visiting Scotland — so fulfilling a promise he made during his campaign.



"Thirty-six is a very attractive age. Politics is full of elder statesman such as Lord Parkinson, the Chairman of the Conservative Party (above), who have, by their own free choice and cosmetic grooming, remained 36 for years."

Leading article, page 21

Fresh start, page 4
***Amitai Etzioni*, page 20**
Leading article, page 21
Letters, page 21

Yeltsin wants to join the club

Boris Yeltsin has demanded permanent, full membership of the club of the world's most powerful industrial nations.

As the Summit of the Eight opened in Denver the Russian President, invited for the first time to play a part in the annual pow-wow, pressed his counterparts to give him equal standing this weekend despite Russia's decaying economy............ Pages 14, 15

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Fred Perry memorabilia net £300,000 but Wimbledon stays out of play

By Emma Wilkins

A COLLECTION of tennis rackets, trophies and trinkets owned by Fred Perry, the British Wimbledon champion, broke world records yesterday when it fetched £300,000 at auction.

While collectors from Britain, America and Japan fought to outbid each other for the 75 lots, the All England Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, which runs Wimbledon, remained resolutely unimpressed. The club's representative, who left the auction at Christie's in London before it finished, purchased a single item — Perry's dented silver cigarette case. It went for just £1,150.

The case, which was presented to Perry in 1954 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his first Wimbledon victory, dates from an age when champion sportsmen took a more relaxed attitude to health and fitness than their modern day counterparts. Perry, like many of his contemporaries, enjoyed a smoke — followed by a couple of sets on the centre court. Another of Perry's cigarette cases fetched £4,466 — well above its estimate of £700.

The All England Club, which housed the memorabilia at the Wimbledon Museum until Perry's death two years ago, was offered the collection *by his fourth wife and widow,* Bobby Perry, for £250,000, but negotiations broke down earlier this year. Penny Perry, the late champion's daughter, said after the sale: "My mother and I are thrilled to bits at the result. It exceeded all our expectations."

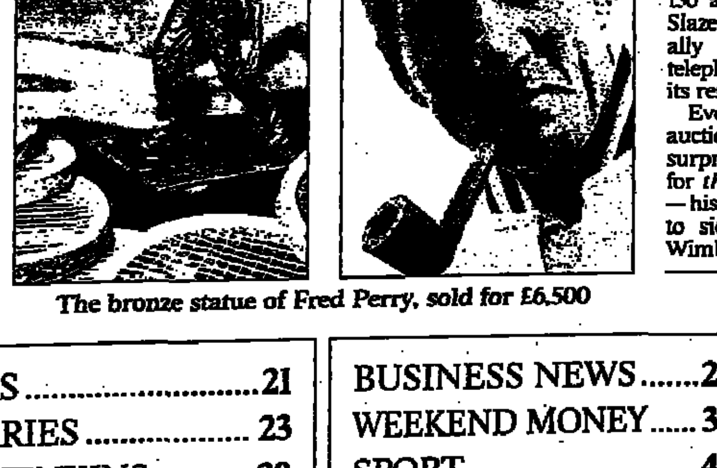
Perry's three silver Renshaw Cups presented after his Wimbledon victories *fetched £36,000, £35,600 and* £25,300. They were all bought by British collectors, with the 1936 trophy going to William Jones, 43, an electrical contractor from Leicester.

"I wanted to get all three and I left a bid of £30,000 on each of them. I am pleased I have got one," Mr Jones said.

The battered racket which helped Perry to his first Wimbledon championship in 1934 set a world record of its own when it fetched £23,000.

The wooden racket, which has broken strings and a worn handle, was expected to make £1,000. There were gasps of astonishment from a crowd of 150 at the auction when the Slazenger racket was eventually sold to an anonymous telephone bidder for 20 times its reserve.

Even Rupert Neelands, the auctioneer, appeared to be surprised. "I am bid £20,000 for *this* racket!" he exclaimed — his gaze switching from side to side of the room like a Wimbledon umpire.



The bronze statue of Fred Perry, sold for £6,500

***Simon Barnes*, page 20**

Blair urges US to stop funding IRA

Tony Blair appealed to the American people to stop giving money for terrorism as he arrived in Denver.

He is seizing on a wave of revulsion at the murder of two policemen in Lurgan to seek President Clinton's backing for a fresh attempt next week to revive the Northern Ireland peace process............ Page 6

Rain cuts short Australia's hopes

Australia's hopes of throttling the England first innings in the second Test at Lord's were soon cut short by rain.

England were struggling on 38 for three when rain interrupted play after 92 minutes. The umpires abandoned play 75 minutes before its scheduled end............Page 56

Kray jailed

Charlie Kray, the 70-year-old elder brother of the twins Reggie and Ronnie, faces spending the rest of his life in prison after being convicted at Woolwich Crown Court of masterminding a £39 million cocaine deal............Page 5

WEATHER........................ 28
CROSSWORD.................... 28
COURT & SOCIAL.......... 22
LETTERS..........................21
OBITUARIES.................... 23
SIMON JENKINS........... 20
BUSINESS NEWS.......29-32
WEEKEND MONEY......33-47
SPORT..........................48-56
LAW REPORT...................27
PROPERTY: WEEKEND...7-10
TRAVEL: WEEKEND......17-24

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Bowled out

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Bowled over

2nd Cornhill Test Match v Australia, Lord's 19-23 June
Wimbledon Tennis Championship 23 June - 6 July
Polo, Veuve Clicquot Gold Cup, Cowdray Park 28 June - 20 July
Henley Royal Regatta 2-6 July
3rd Cornhill Test Match v Australia, Old Trafford 3-7 July
Hampton Court Palace International Flower Show 9-13 July
British Grand Prix, Silverstone 13 July
Glorious Goodwood 29 July - 2 August
Cowes Week 2-9 August
Silk Cut Derby, Hickstead 14-17 August

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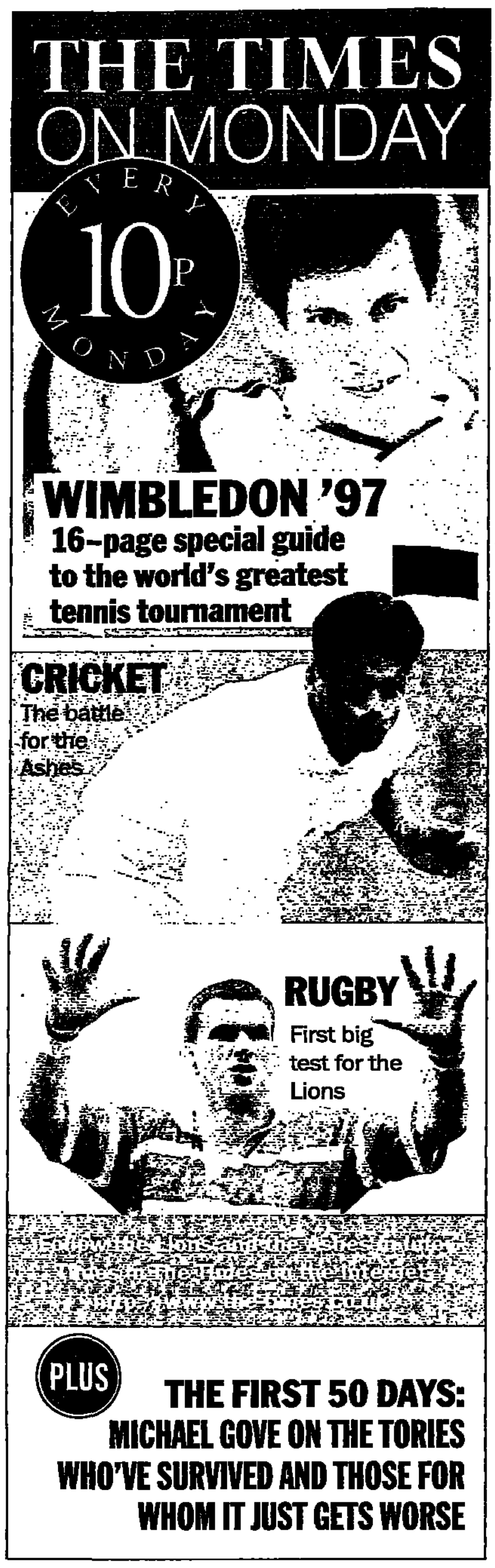
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Wife could not have paid Ritz bill

Smoking gun that shot down Aitken's claims in court

By Michael Horsnell

THE EVIDENCE

THE smoking gun that proved Jonathan Aitken lied about his "family weekend" in Paris with his wife and 17-year-old daughter was discovered by Wendy Harris, of British Airways' security and investigation service.

In a damning witness statement, signed on Wednesday after she had been subpoenaed by counsel for *The Guardian* and Granada Television, Ms Harris proved that Lolicia Aitken and her daughter, Victoria, were never in Paris between September 17 and 20, 1993.

Mother and daughter were proved to have flown directly from Heathrow to Geneva to settle Victoria into a new school in Switzerland, without stopping en route, as Mr Aitken claimed. This meant that Mrs Aitken could not have paid the bill at the Ritz Hotel, as her husband testified.

Ms Harris, who would have been called as a witness if Mr Aitken had not thrown in the towel, discovered flight coupons on BA's microfilm records proving that Mrs Aitken and her daughter flew from Heathrow to Geneva on flight 724 at 08.30 on September 17. Mrs Aitken returned alone from Geneva to Heathrow on flight 731 at 19.05 on September 20.

In her statement, Ms Harris said: "It would not have been possible to retrieve flight coupons for a passenger unless they did travel on that flight." She said it would only have been possible for Mrs Aitken to claim they did not travel "if two other ladies by the name of Mrs L. Aitken and Miss V. Aitken travelled on these flights".

Peter Preston, former Editor of *The Guardian*, said after the case that other evidence obtained on Wednesday demonstrated that, two hours after Mrs Aitken was said by her husband to have paid his Ritz bill in cash, she was handing back her hire car in Geneva, which had been paid for by a credit card he claimed she never had.

Fifteen days ago in court Mr Aitken was said to have had his reputation "butchered" by the allegations that he had supplied prostitutes to Arab businessmen on whom he depended for his fortune. Those claims have been effectively accepted in court in the wake of his surrender.

The former MP was accused of the "gravest charges of flagrant misconduct as a minister" by concealing that he was in their pockets. But midway through the hearing *The Guardian* and Granada withdrew their defence of other allegations surrounding his role as a director of the defence company BMARC after a ruling by Mr Justice Popplewell. This cleared him of condoning the sale of naval cannon to Iran, in breach of an export ban, and selling weapons to both sides in the Iran-Iraq war, against government policy.

Typical twist confirms Carman's reputation

CRITICS tempted to believe that George Carman's crown was slipping, saw him confirmed as the king of libel lawyers (Richard Duce writes). He has a reputation as the man who produces evidence in mid-trial which swings the case.

The son of a Blackpool furniture shop owner, he considered the priesthood but decided to read law at Oxford after realising that he liked women too much. He emerged into the limelight in 1979 with his successful defence of Jeremy Thorpe. Sir David Napley, the solicitor who first brought him to London, said: "It would not be right to call him an eloquent speaker, but he wins because of his sheer hard work."

INTERNATIONAL SUPPORTING CAST FOR A VERY BRITISH SCANDAL

☐ **THE PRINCE: Prince Mohammed bin Fahd, eldest son of the Saudi king, and business associate of Aitken after they met at lunch in Paris in 1973: ultimately said to have paid Mr Aitken's Ritz bill while he was Defence Procurement Minister**

A weekend stay at the Ritz in Paris precipitated the Mr Aitken's downfall

☐ **THE FIXER: Said Ayas, the prince's principal aide who introduced Aitken to him; godfather to Aitken's daughter Victoria; said to have attended Ritz meeting; *Guardian* claims he was a conspirator in plot to pervert the course of justice**

☐ **THE BUSINESSMAN: Wafic Said, the Syrian-born businessman and long-time associate of Aitken who has rejected allegations that he attended a meeting with the former MP at the Ritz in Paris; £20 million benefactor of Oxford University Business School**

☐ **THE SOURCE: Mohamed Al Fayed, chairman of Harrods and owner of The Ritz hotel in Paris, was dubbed a liar and a cheat by the DTI; he was the original informant of *The Guardian* who triggered their campaign to expose Aitken**

Aitken disgrace

Continued from page 1

evidence Mr Aitken, after lengthy consultations with his legal team throughout much of Wednesday, decided to surrender and disappeared from his Westminster home on Thursday morning.

On the eve of his capitulation he dictated to his secretary, Lynn Fox, a brief statement announcing that for personal reasons he and his wife of 18 years were separating.

Last night Lady Aitken, his mother, said she was both "saddened and suprised" by his sudden decision to abandon the libel action.

A close friend of Mr Aitken, John Mappin, said last night "He is a very resilient man, so don't write him off yet. He may still have a career in politics. There will be many who will take pleasure in his pain."

Mr Aitken had claimed that his personal, political and professional reputation had been "butchered" by the newspaper articles and Granada's *World in Action* programme *Jonathan of Arabia*, which was broadcast in April 1995. He resigned from the Cabinet three months later to pursue his libel action, with the blessing of John Major.

At the height of the debate about sleaze allegations against promiment figures in the previous Tory Government, the documentary accused him of being in the pocket of Saudi businessmen and involvement in illegal arms deals.

His counsel Mr Charles Gray QC, told the judge, Mr Justice Popplewell simply: "I'm instructed by my client to ask for the action to be discontinued on the terms agreed relating to costs." The judge, sitting without a jury, nodded his consent as did Mr George Carman, QC, for the defendants.

Mr Aitken agreed to pay 80 per cent of the defence costs, estimated at over £800,000. His own bill is thought to be over £1.2 million which close associates say the wealthy businessman is able to afford.

A spokesman for William Hague, the new Conservative leader, said: "He will be making no comment as Mr Aitken is not a Tory MP."

Dear Jonathan ... the letters that spelt trouble for minister

THE CORRESPONDENCE

By Michael Horsnell

THE seeds of the Aitken case were sown in a marathon correspondence between the former Cabinet minister and Peter Preston, then Editor of *The Guardian*. Twenty letters running to almost 60 pages were exchanged between the newspaper's offices and Treasury Chambers from October 1993 to November 1994.

The newspaperman doggedly but politely pursued his quarry, asking about the infamous weekend in Paris. On February 4, 1994, Mr Aitken quoted Iago from *Othello*: "Trifles light as air / Are to the jealous confirmation strong / As proof of holy writ." The minister said: "Substitute *The Guardian* for *the jealous* and the lines seem to be rather a good explanation for your side of this obsessional correspondence."

On October 22, 1993, Mr Preston had said that "by chance" a source at the Ritz had spotted Mr Aitken there with Said Ayas and Wafic Said. He queried whether this was "a giant coincidence or an informal rendezvous".

Mr Aitken replied that there was no meeting which could violate the rules of ministerial conduct, that he saw Mr Ayas in Paris as a family friend and that he had "no idea" that two others including Mr Said were at the Ritz. On January 11, 1994, Mr Preston apologised for asking whether Mr Ayas had paid the bill. Mr Aitken replied that his wife had paid and that there had been "no act of extraordinary generosity" by Mr Ayas.

By January 19, Mr Preston was making it plain that he knew the FF8,010 bill for room 526 was paid by Mr Ayas in rooms 626/7. The minister claimed to have shown "the patience of Job" in dealing with Mr Preston's "obsession and scepticism". He said that the hotel had made a mistake in typing Mr Ayas's name on his account, but that was because his room had been booked by Mr Ayas.

Preston: his pursuit was dogged, but polite

Next, Mr Aitken said he had found the receipt of the payment by his wife. Mr Preston wrote back on January 27 asking to see a copy, and also requested inquiries from John Major and the Cabinet Secretary, Sir Robin Butler. Extra letters were sent by Mr Preston to Sir Robin and the Prime Minister.

On February 18, Sir Robin wrote to Mr Preston saying he was happy with Mr Aitken's version of events. Mr Major's principal private secretary, Alex Allen, wrote on March 29 that the Prime Minister also accepted that version.

After further persistence from Mr Preston, Sir Robin wrote on October 27: "We sucked this orange dry in our correspondence. I am satisfied Mr Aitken and his wife paid their bill at the Ritz."

Mr Aitken, addressing the newspaperman for the first time as Dear Mr Preston, instead of Dear Peter, wrote: "I have no intention of corresponding or speaking with you again."

Tory reputations at risk of ruin

By Andrew Pierce
Political Correspondent

DOWNEY REPORT

JONATHAN AITKEN is the most prominent Tory scalp since Mohamed Al Fayed launched his guerrilla campaign against the Tory leadership over his battle for British citizenship. Four ministers have fallen after allegations made in *The Guardian*, and more reputations could be ruined next month.

Sir Gordon Downey's long-awaited report into the cash-for-questions affair is expected to be published soon, with verdicts on ten Tory MPs who lost their seats or stood down at the election. They include, Tim Smith, who resigned as a minister after admitting taking more than £18,000 from Mr Al Fayed.

Neil Hamilton, the most notorious of the ten MPs, resigned as a minister after admitting taking an undeclared free holiday at the Ritz in Paris. He was subsequently shown to have had a second free stay. He denied Mr Al Fayed's charge that he took bribes, but the bad publicity took its toll and he lost his seat to Martin Bell.

Michael Brown, also a former minister, was revealed to have taken an undeclared £5,000 from Ian Greer, the lobbyist who once worked for Mr Al Fayed. All three could be recalled before the Standards and Privileges Committee for a televised cross-examination.

Other Tories awaiting the outcome of the report are Sir Peter Hordern, Sir Andrew Bowden, Sir Michael Grylls, Gerald Malone, Lady Olga Maitland, Norman Lamont and Nirj Deva. They all deny any wrongdoing.

John Major was given a warning in September 1994 that Mr Al Fayed had a dossier on Tory MPs. Three years on, his allegations are still damaging the party.

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Shattering fall of an arrogant high-flyer

BY ANDREW PIERCE AND MICHAEL HORSNELL

FALLEN IDOL

ONCE among the brightest stars in the Tory firmament, Jonathan Aitken now knows the price of his own arrogance and greed: a possible jail term for perjury.

He wakes this morning, if indeed he slept at all, to the knowledge that his political career and reputation are in tatters. His marriage is over and the family has been divided.

This surely marks the end of a rollercoaster 25-year career which could have come straight from the pages of a Jeffrey Archer novel. The hero, a rakish, handsome, multi-millionaire, faces the ultimate fall from grace: a possible prison sentence for lying. But even Archer would not have dared to write such a dramatic and far-fetched final chapter; public humiliation on the day after the helm of the Tory Party, which was once within his grasp, was seized by a leader from a new generation who is determined to stamp out sleaze.

❛ Recent events have shattered me and broken our family ❜

When he resigned as Chief Secretary to the Treasury in July 1995, vowing to take up "the simple of sword of truth . . . to cut out the cancer of bent and twisted journalism", Mr Aitken was the acceptable face of Euro-scepticism.

His stance, which involved the sacrifice of his Cabinet career which Margaret Thatcher had denied him for 20 years, earned him the admiration of even his bitterest enemies. Having cleared his name, MPs assumed he would return to Tory prominence. But his famous oratory returned to haunt him. He was skewered on his own sword of truth.

"Recent events have shattered me and broken our *family*," was *his assessment*, in a short statement, of the situation he had created by his catastrophically misjudged decision to sue for libel.

The fact he was destroyed by the pack of lies he told the Cabinet Secretary, the Prime Minister and a High Court *judge about the payment of a* hotel bill at the Ritz in Paris adds an extraordinary dimension to the remarkable plot.

It was his long-lasting business affair with the Arab world which set in train the events which led to his destruction. The source of the power, controversy and riches of Jonathan Aitken began with a lunch in Paris in 1973.

Mr Aitken went *right* to the top. He met Prince Mohammed bin Fahd, eldest son of the Saudi king, through his *friend* Said Ayas, the prince's *principal* aide. Ayas, whose mother had introduced Mr Aitken to Lolicia, is godfather to the couple's daughter, Victoria. Prominent among his new friends was the Syrian businessman Wafic Said. Mr Aitken was to become an unofficial Middle East ambassador to the British establishment. However, it was only a matter of time before Mr Aitken, who liked to live dangerously, pushed his luck too far. His downfall came, in common with at least one other former Tory MP, at a weekend stay at Mohamed Al Fayed's Paris Ritz hotel. It was September 1993.

Mr Aitken was Minister for Defence Procurement and tipped for the Cabinet. But he had made a fatal error in his choice of venue for the clandestine meeting with his Arab friends.

Mr Al Fayed was already preparing to unleash one of the biggest political scandals of the post-war years on John *Major's Government. Mr Aitken had become ensnared in* Mr Al Fayed's growing web of sleaze.

Ayas, whom *The Guardian* always maintained had paid the bill, and Wafic Said, a close associate of Mark Thatcher, were also present, *according to Mr Al Fayed, The Guardian's* whistleblower. Mr Said denies his attendance. The bill, it ultimately transpired, was paid by Prince Mohammed, through Manon Vidal, the secretary to his treasurer.

Mr Aitken had become MP *for Thanet South one year* after his fateful Paris lunch.

The family man: Aitken's daughter, Victoria, and his wife Lolicia at a party function

REX

He was 31. A scion of the Beaverbrook dynasty, politics had always been in his blood. He was inspired by his great-uncle, the press baron Lord Beaverbrook, who told him: "Your father is a good man, but a dull man. You must stir up mischief."

Mr Aitken had to work for his money. He sought out Beaverbrook at Oxford only to be told: "You're a very bright boy with a very bright future. I am going to pay you the greatest compliment — I am not going to leave you a cent."

However, the family name *helped him to earn his own* living. His first job was as a foreign correspondent with the family-owned *Evening Standard*. Mr Aitken's cavalier style ensured that, as with his political career, he made enemies and waves in equal proportion during his spell in *journalism.He appeared at* the Old Bailey under Official Secrets charges — and was acquitted — for publishing in *The Sunday Telegraph* a report about Britain supplying arms to Nigeria during the Biafra war. It scuppered his chances of fighting the safe Tory seat of Thirsk and Malton in 1970.

But the world of business beckoned. Having established his Arab links he became managing director of the investment company Slater Walker (Middle East) Ltd. He was head of its Middle East operations.

Mr Aitken escaped un*scathed from the collapse of* Slater Walker, advanced his own business and made his name with the backing of Arab money.

His financial career blossomed. With Ayas he joined the board of Al Bilad (UK), the British investment *arm of the Saudi royal family.* Prince Mohammed or other high-table Saudi Arabian associates invested heavily in three of Mr Aitken's projects: about £2 million in the Aitken Hume bank, the financial services group in 1981.

The following year he secured a secret investment of £3.3 million in TV-am. It end*ed in his resignation when the* Arab source of the donation was discovered.

About £1 million was ploughed into the Inglewood health hydro near Newbury where the allegations made in court of "pimping" for Arabs arose.

Mr Aitken's business interests were complex, but *World in Action* revealed he was also on the board of a Lebanese-owned arms company Future Management Services; Aitken Hume acted as its bankers.

By this time Mr Aitken was on the defensive over allegations about the extent of his knowledge of illegal arms sales by BMARC. He was on the company board. He denied any knowledge having joined the board near the end of the time when they were taking place.

The net was closing on Mr Aitken, whose business deals had helped to establish him as one of the wealthiest men in Westminster.

It was all a far cry from the *days when the young Oxford* law undergraduate came to the conclusion that he could not afford to become a barrister.

At Oxford he was a wild child in a pinstripe suit combining dinners at Chequers with articles about the delights of women and smoking pot. They left little doubt that he had extensive experience of both.

But in those days an automatic career in Tory politics beckoned. Inevitably, there was a friend of the family to foster his political ambitions. John Selwyn-Lloyd, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, employed him as a speechwriter at the age of 22.

One year after he became an MP, Margaret Thatcher, his intellectual soul mate, became Tory leader. But advancement was denied him until 1992 under John Major. Lady *Thatcher never forgave him* for the way he "dumped" her daughter, making him forever in the Prime Minister's eyes "the man who made Carol cry".

She had another great reservation: that he would be trouble with a capital T.

In 1979 *he married Lolicia* Olivera Azucki, a Serb by origin living in Switzerland, who was to bear him twin daughters Alexandra and Victoria, and a son William. It was to become a deeply unhappy marriage.

With the style of Michael Heseltine, and the Eurosceptic views of Michael Portillo, he could have been a candidate for 10 Downing Street, but was one of the few Tory MPs to publicly predict his own undoing at the election. His 11,500 majority was wiped out.

His choice of friends and *heroes says much about him.* Among the closest is Alan Clark, the former minister, who argued that selling arms was good for Britain and not to ask too many questions about their destination.

His hero was Richard Nixon. In his 600-page biography *Mr Aitken argued that Nixon* should never have been hounded from office by a vindictive press. Mr Aitken, by suing for libel, was determined not to suffer the same fate.

The student: Aitken, aged 18, at Eton

The wedding: with Lolicia Azucki in 1979

The ex: Aitken "dumped" Carol Thatcher

❛ You're a very bright boy with a very bright future — I am not going to leave you a cent ❜

Stage-managed show of unity hid marriage of convenience

THE WIFE

BY DANIEL MCGRORY AND RICHARD DUCE

THE Aitkens were careful always to link arms as they walked the last few yards to the High Court each morning. Until yesterday Lolicia Aitken prided herself on the faultless performance she gave as the loyal Tory wife who, without complaint, coped with her husband's personal and political crises and his infidelities.

In Court 10 she would edge ever closer to her immaculately dressed husband on the bench, rub his hands and, at appropriate moments, gaze with studied admiration into his eyes.

At the start of each day's proceedings Lolicia could be observed massaging aromatic oils into Jonathan's temples and brow and then proffering encouragement in her stage whisper.

His mother, Lady Aitken, would greet this ritual with disdain, wafting away *the odour of the* oils with her copy of *Country Life*. She had long recognised the marriage was a charade.

Mr Aitken was insistent *that the* libel trial was to blame for the split, saying: "it shattered me and has broken our *family." Lady Aitken* said: "I think this would have happened anyway."

His mother conceded their show of unity as they arrived at court each day was carefully stage-managed: "That was just for the photocall. Things were going wrong before the case." *Lady Aitken hinted* that the couple were leading increasingly separate lives. "It is the way people are these days, they come and they go."

Those closest to the couple agree theirs had long been a marriage of mutual convenience. One said: "For years they had led virtually separate lives but both enjoyed the social benefits of maintaining the marriage and, indeed, keeping up appearances for the children — in particular their son William."

Just before the collapse of his trial, facing public and financial ruination, Mr Aitken realised the futility of maintaining the pretence. He dictated a terse statement to his loyal secretary Lynn Fox and instructed her to release it late in the evening, blaming the ordeal in the High Court.

Last night many in the Aitkens' social circle who had previously believed his protestations of innocence were questioning whether the timing of his marital separation was a final cynical attempt to use Lolicia to engender public sympathy for himself. The suspicion exists that Lolicia could not bring herself to tell another lie for her husband — this time, under oath.

She was spared that indignity when defence investigators discovered hard evidence that Lolicia was in Geneva with her 17-year-old *daughter*, Victoria, when Mr Aitken claims she was paying his hotel bill in Paris.

She always realised there was a hidden price to pay for being Mrs Jonathan Aitken. Lolicia Olivera Azucki, the daughter of a wealthy Yugoslav businessman, revelled in the life of the millionaire wife of the suave Tory MP and was one of London's most noted hostesses at their home in Lord North Street, Westminster.

She scorned the idea of exerting any political influence saying: "Everyone knows I'm a really thick political wife. It's a big joke I don't understand politics." In fact, she understood only too well the need for her continued fidelity if her husband was to ascend to the higher offices of state which she coveted for him.

Friends say she argued against him resigning his Cabinet post in 1995 to contest this libel action. Bitter experience had taught her to accept his personal infidelities.

In 1980, when she was dangerously ill after the birth of her twin girls, her husband had to apologise for his affair with secretary Paula Strudwick, a former prostitute who, unknown to him, had specialised in sado-masochism.

Society columns would often link Jonathan with a succession of women. She watched him woo Carol Thatcher while dating her and said stoically: "I saw it as *a battle lost, not the war.*"

Mrs Aitken embarked on an ever more eclectic search for spiritual fulfilment involving Buddhist retreats, Red Indian ceremonies in Oregon and visits to the Dalai Lama in India.

What Jonathan Aitken will *never know is how his long-*suffering wife would have performed in the witness box, maintaining the greatest lie of their married life.

Fortunes linked: the Aitkens united en route to court

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Charmer of the blue-rinse brigade spearheads Tory campaign to appeal to the young

Hague's fresh start brings yesterday's man back into fold

By Jill Sherman, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM HAGUE launched his leadership campaign with the slogan, "A fresh start". But yesterday he astonished MPs by turning the clock back 16 years and appointing Cecil Parkinson as Tory party chairman for the second time.

Lord Parkinson, 65, who dramatically resigned from the Government in 1983 after Sara Keays revealed that she was pregnant with his child, was one of Margaret Thatcher's favourite protégés and is still a close friend.

His return to the political centre stage will alarm those who are already worried that Mr Hague's leadership will herald a swing to the Right, with rightwingers holding the key posts in his Shadow Cabinet.

Baroness Thatcher's late endorsement of Mr Hague on Wednesday signalled her determination to see her legacy survive once her favourite candidates had dropped out. Although Mr Hague's advisers publicly played down the link with Baroness Thatcher, party sources suggested that Lord Parkinson would be in close contact with her. A Tory source said: "She will feel more comfortable than she has done for years with Cecil as party chairman."

The appointment of someone whose parliamentary career started when Mr Hague was only nine years old is also at odds with the new leader's determination to transform the party and bring in young blood.

But yesterday Lord Parkinson, who last time he was party chairman was credited with masterminding the Tory landslide of 1983, dismissed the suggestion that his two-year appointment meant a retreat to the days of Mrs Thatcher. "I'm not charged with the task of burnishing the memory of the past. I'm charged with the task of drawing up plans about the future," he insisted.

His main task will be to reorganise the party and ensure the grass roots have a greater say in choosing the party leader and more involvement in policy-making.

Despite his downfall in 1983, Lady Thatcher brought him back into the Cabinet in 1987 as Energy Secretary. However, he was immediately removed by John Major when he became Prime Minister in 1990.

The flirtatious Lord Parkinson has always oozed a slightly risqué charm and is adored by the Tory blue-rinse brigade. His gossipy and indiscreet manner has in the past endeared him to the male bastion of the party although many will be amazed at this latest rehabilitation. The younger members of the party will also be disappointed that Mr Hague has not chosen someone with whom they can identify.

Lord Parkinson entered the House of Commons as MP for Enfield West in 1970. His rise through the party was swift — becoming a parliamentary private secretary in 1972 and a government whip in 1974.

He remained as a whip in Opposition till 1976 when he moved to become Opposition spokesman for trade and industry, becoming minister in that Department in 1979. He was promoted by Mrs Thatcher to Paymaster General and Chairman of the party in September 1981 till the election victory two years later.

Mrs Thather appointed him as Trade and Industry Secretary in June 1983 but he resigned at the Tory party conference in October that year, after Ms Keays had told *The Times* about their affair.

Lord Parkinson has never hid his political ambitions and after his resignation in 1983 he rejected a number of rewarding business offers that might have conflicted with any political comeback. Yesterday he proved he could come back once more.

Leading article, and Letters, page 21

PAUL HACKETT/REUTERS

William Hague and his choice as party chairman, Lord Parkinson, also appointed by Baroness Thatcher

Too old for pop, this Ox may go far

By Dominic Kennedy

AT 36, William Hague is probably too old to be a pop star, but he is exactly the right age to be chased for maintenance by the Child Support Agency.

If he had chosen a musical career, Mr Hague would now be plummeting down the charts. His fellow 36-year-olds — Boy George, Andy Taylor of Duran Duran, Slim Jim Phantom of the Stray Cats, Lloyd Cole of the Commotions and Nick Heyward of Haircut 100 — all peaked in the 1980s.

But had Mr Hague chosen drama, he could still be at the height of success, either as a leading man like George Clooney, or a comic character actor like Eddie Murphy and Nicholas Lyndhurst.

He has little obviously in common with 36-year-old contemporaries such as the actor Tim Roth and the comic Harry Enfield, who partly based his character "Tory Boy" on Mr Hague. In his love life, Mr Hague is a glaringly late developer. Of the few 36-year-old bridegrooms in this country (only 6,000 a year), fewer than half are getting married for the first time. The average age of an "absent parent", almost always the father, on the Child Support Agency's books is precisely 36.

Mr Hague was born in the Chinese Year of the Ox, which may explain his success, according to Lori Reid, author of *The Complete Illustrated Guide to Chinese Horoscopes*. "Oxen this year will have plenty of romance and opportunities to travel," she said. "They are workaholics, rather stolid lovers, can be bloody-minded and are terribly old-fashioned."

The most common causes of death for Englishmen aged 36 today are injury and, alarmingly, poisoning. Mr Hague should beware as, according to the Chinese, Tony Blair is a Snake.

King William inaugurates the Thatcherite Restoration

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

THE Thatcherites have taken charge. William Hague has not only received the blessing of Margaret Thatcher, but he has reciprocated. His first appointments are less a fresh start than a Restoration. After the Cromwellian six-and-a-half years of the man from Huntingdon, the old regime has returned.

This has been symbolised by the appointment of Cecil Parkinson as party chairman, 14 years after he left Conservative Central Office. It is as if Mr Hague is consciously emulating Baroness Thatcher, who also went back to a figure from the past as her first party chairman, in her case to the late Lord Thorneycroft. Like him, Lord Parkinson is a shrewd and charming veteran who can understand the party grassroots. But it is a strange move.

Lord Parkinson was a successful chairman from 1981 to 1983, but in very different circumstances. It is always hard to go back to a job you have previously done. He now looks a figure from the past, a golden oldie, rather than a fresh face to lead a revolution in party organisation.

It is all very well trying to recreate the Thatcher spirit of strong leadership and success. That may please Tory activists. But harking back to the past is not the way to appeal to potential members, particularly younger ones, and to win back the millions of former Tory voters.

The first batch of Shadow Cabinet appointments confirms the dominance of the Right, with Peter Lilley and Michael Howard as Shadow Chancellor and Shadow Foreign Secretary respectively. That is expected and their due reward. After all, the Right won on Thursday. Mr Lilley has the intellectual potential to be the Geoffrey Howe or Nigel Lawson of his era, while Mr Howard's exchanges with Robin Cook will not be for the squeamish. John Redwood will be seen as lucky in being given Trade and Industry after the past week's manoeuvrings. Stephen Dorrell is a strong choice for Education and Employment.

The real indication of how far Mr Hague intends to be "inclusive", in the fashionable jargon, will come today with the announcement of the rest of the Shadow Cabinet. Since only four former members of the Major Cabinet are still available, the rest having either retired from the Commons or lost their seats on May 1, there are bound to be several fresh faces — from among Michael Ancram, David Heathcoat-Amory, James Arbuthnot and John Maples.

The pro-Europeans are worried. They have not only lost the leadership contest. They also fear that party policy will move decisively in a Eurosceptic direction — and not just over the single currency, where Mr Redwood will not recant his objections in principle. As important in the short term may be Mr Howard's belief that Britain should repatriate powers from Europe. That means the renegotiation of existing treaties, which is rejected by Kenneth Clarke and his allies.

Mr Hague's early decisions are aimed more at the faithful than the uncommitted. He has yet to show he knows how to win back the middle ground.

PETER RIDDELL

NEWS IN BRIEF

Labour MP denies gain from link with firm

Robert Wareing, the Labour MP, yesterday denied receiving benefits from alleged business links with a Serbian company.

The MP for Liverpool West Derby, who has been suspended by the party, is facing an investigation by the parliamentary standards watchdog into allegations that he failed to disclose a consultancy in the Register of Members' Interests. Mr Wareing said that he had not acted dishonourably and had not broken parliamentary rules.

Bus lane for M4

A bus lane is to be built along one of the busiest sections of the M4 to cut journey times to Heathrow airport. The walled-off lane will run from junction 4 to 4a and will be closed to all traffic except buses. Construction will be financed by the airport and work is due to be completed by the autumn.

CSA crackdown

Absent fathers face a new crackdown from the Child Support Agency. Harriet Harman, the Social Security Secretary, told the Commons that the agency must eliminate its backlog, complete 500,000 extra assessments this year, improve its accuracy and set up extra telephone lines to give callers prompter service.

Bard on Tyne

The English Shakespeare Company, which almost collapsed three years ago after funding cuts, is to have its first permanent base at the Tyne Theatre and Opera House in Newcastle. Michael Bogdanov, the company's artistic director, said he was pleased to escape the elitism of London theatregoers.

Attacker held

A man who attacked a woman outside her flat and tried to force her inside has been detained indefinitely under mental health laws after the Old Bailey was told he had schizophrenia. Adrian Rajaratnam, 25, of southeast London, was caught after his victim fought him off. He was convicted of false imprisonment.

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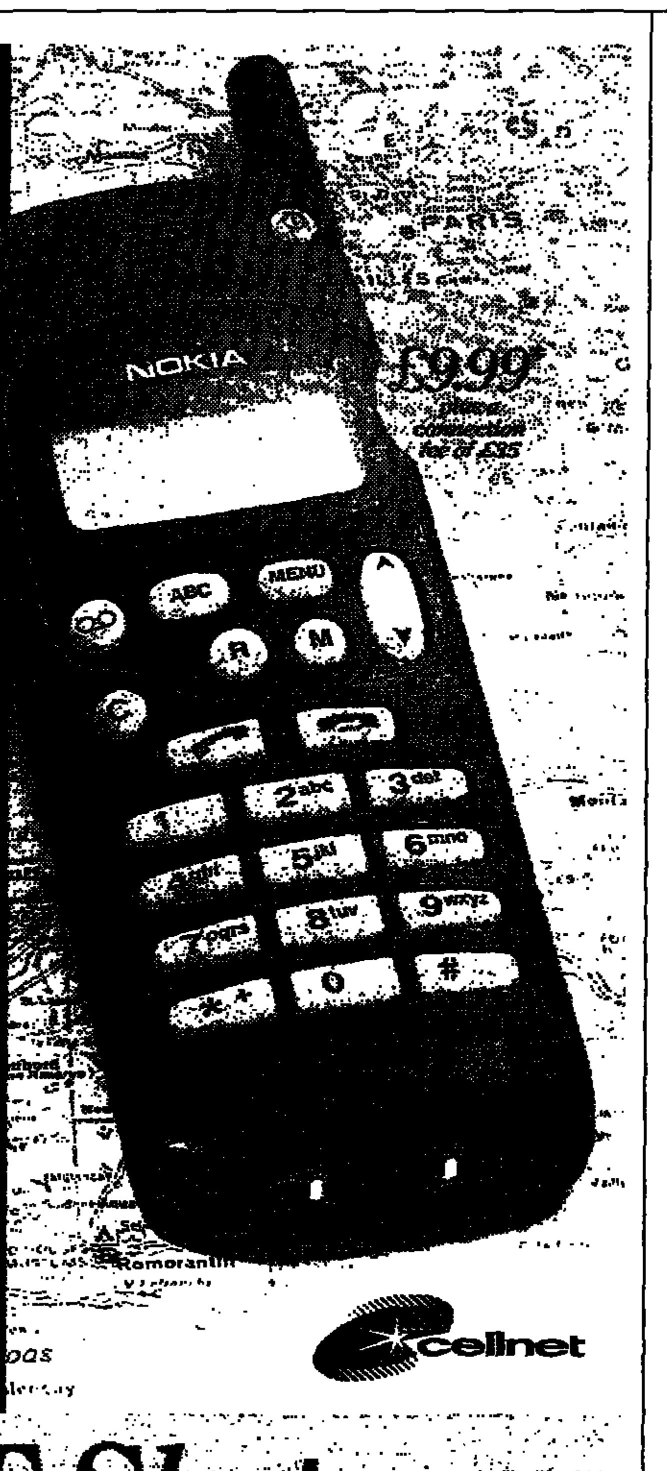

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'Lovable old villain' who claimed he just had a bad name could end his days in prison

Charlie Kray convicted of setting up cocaine deal

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

CHARLIE KRAY, the 70-year-old elder brother of the twins Reggie and Ronnie, faces spending the rest of his life in prison after he was convicted yesterday of masterminding a £39 million cocaine deal.

At the end of a five-week trial, a jury at Woolwich Crown Court found Kray guilty of offering to supply undercover police officers with a consignment of cocaine every fortnight for two years. During the trial the street value of the cocaine was put at £39 million, but police and lawyers estimate that it could have been worth as much as £78 million.

Kray, from Sanderstead, southeast London, was also convicted of supplying two kilograms of cocaine, worth £63,000 last July.

Yesterday, as the jury returned the second of its unanimous verdicts after three days of deliberations, Judy Stanley, 42, Kray's girlfriend, covered her face. Other women in the packed public gallery began crying and men shook their heads, but Kray sat in the dock without showing any emotion.

Charlie and Reggie Kray at the funeral of their brother Ronnie in 1995. Defence lawyers tried several times to persuade Reggie to testify at Charlie's trial, but he refused. Legal sources suggested that he did not want to jeopardise his chances of release from jail next May. He reportedly told the defence team he would *not* take part in a court "circus"

Kray was last convicted in 1969, of helping to dispose of the body of Jack "The Hat" McVitie, murdered by his brother Reggie. He was released in 1975 and, throughout his trial, maintained that he was nothing more than a "lovable old villain" who lived off stories about the Kray gang in the 1960s.

After the result Kray shook hands with Jonathan Goldberg, QC, his barrister. He blew a kiss to Miss Stanley before being led away to await sentencing on Monday. Earlier Judge Carroll warned him and two other men who pleaded guilty earlier to supplying the drug that they would all face custodial sentences.

The top sentence for trafficking in cocaine is now life. Whatever the length of the sentence, Kray will serve at least part of it as a "Triple A" maximum security prisoner.

Outside the court friends continued to claim his innocence. Miss Stanley was too upset to speak. Diana Buffini, a former girlfriend, said there was evidence that the jury was not allowed to see. Maureen Cox, a former *Sun* Page Three girl, said: "Our biggest fear is that he will not come out alive. He is the wrong side of 70 to be incarcerated again. God only knows how he will get through it."

Kray will go to prison just as his brother Reggie looks forward to possible release next year after serving 30 years for murder. Ronnie, his twin, died two years ago in Broadmoor.

The twins were repeatedly mentioned during the trial as the defence argued that Kray was the victim of the family name. Character witnesses such as Britain's first Miss UK and "Mad" Frankie Fraser, former minder for the rival Richardson gang in south London, swore that Kray was innocent. Kray claimed that the drug deal was just a scam to raise cash.

But the jury was told that Kray had been extensively tape-recorded setting up a deal with undercover officers brought in by Scotland Yard. Kray was described as a middleman between suppliers and dealers. One officer posed as a crooked Newcastle businessman and Kray set up the cocaine deal with him.

He boasted of the drugs he could get and told him he would never be directly connected with the drugs or the cash because he knew he was always under suspicion.

D. JONES

Charlie Kray on leave from jail in 1974 with his mother, Violet, and Susan Dwyer

How net closed on criminal who evaded arrest for 20 years

Read: detective who convicted Krays in 1969

By Our Crime Correspondent

CHARLIE KRAY wanted to appear an old rogue living off the legend of his twin brothers Ronnie and Reggie, but Scotland Yard's files depict him as a lifetime crook.

Since his release from prison in 1975, at least three operations have been mounted against him by police after he was linked to amphetamine production, counterfeit videotapes and fake pound coins. Underworld whispers connected him to protection rackets. One senior officer said of Kray: "He has spent a lifetime as a top-tier criminal, who has made a living from crime but evaded arrest. Out of the blue he could offer a £78 million coke deal. You cannot do that unless you are a main player with contacts." He had no bank account or credit cards. One investigator said: "He has never paid any tax, never worked and never drawn benefit. How do you do that unless it's crime?"

The detective who convicted all three Kray brothers almost 30 years ago, Leonard "Nipper" Read, said: "Charlie has been presented as some bumbling idiot. That is far from the case. He was well and truly part of the Kray firm. When the twins were in trouble, he was the first person they turned to." Mr Read, 71, said that dozens of charges had been left on the file when Kray was convicted in 1969 of helping the brothers get rid of the body of Jack "The Hat" McVitie, and given a ten-year sentence. He said Kray was clever, but never violent; he never needed to be. "All he had to say was that he was Charlie Kray. People looked over his shoulder and wondered where the twins were."

During that heyday of the Kray empire he was a powerful figure in the background, helping to set up and run the Kray clubs. After he was released in 1975, he managed a pop group, sold cutlery at the Ideal Home Exhibition, co-wrote books about himself and the twins, and provided advice for a film on the twins. His name continued to reach police. Forces in the Midlands and East Anglia heard whispers.

In the 1980s the Yard's task force on organised crime began a clandestine investigation into drug-deal links between Kray and the remnants of the brothers' old rivals, the Richardson gang. Regional crime squad officers also investigated him.

The key moment came when detectives in east London were given information that he and another criminal target were involved in large-scale drug supplies to the East End. Kray, who knew that he attracted police attention, was cautious. The team decided to set a trap using undercover officers who would make their approach away from London. Plain-clothes detectives from provincial forces chose a party in Birmingham to make their pitch. They posed as crooked businessmen with an interest in drugs.

Kray offered them a shopping list.

After his arrest there was no swearing, no threats, no struggles. "It was like going back 30 years," said Detective Superintendent Gavin Robertson, who caught him. "He was a gentleman. I asked him if he wanted a cup of tea and he said, 'Thank you.' It was that polite."

Women jailed for fire that killed family

By A Staff Reporter

THREE women were jailed yesterday after the deaths of a young mother and her two children in an arson attack inspired by jealousy.

Donna Clarke, 27, was cleared of murder but sentenced to 20 years for arson after pouring petrol through the letter box. Clarke's aunt, Annette Hewins, 31, who supplied the petrol, was also cleared of murder and convicted of arson, and jailed for 13 years.

Ms Jones, 21, died with Shauna, aged two, and 13-month-old Sarah Jane. Cardiff Crown Court was told that Clarke, who had been having an affair with Shaun Hibberd, Ms Jones's partner, took her revenge after Mr Hibberd *ended the relationship.*

In October 1995 she ignited petrol in the hallway of the couple's home on a large council estate in Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales. Mr Hibberd was in jail. Neighbours who tried to rescue the victims heard Ms Jones shout: "My babies, my babies."

She was discovered in a bedroom with her arms stretched over Sarah Jane. Shauna was huddled below a window. Clarke had returned to watch firefighters tackle the blaze.

Mr Hibberd had said that Clarke, a mother of two, had pestered him after he ended their affair. The jury heard that, weeks before the fire, she told a friend: "I can't wait to get my hands on Diane — I'm going to petrol-bomb her."

Another friend of Clarke, Denise Sullivan, 25, was cleared of murder and arson but convicted of perverting the course of justice by trying to mislead police. She was jailed for four years.

John Rees, for the prosecution, warned the jury of "a culture shock" when hearing about some of those involved. "They live a seedy and sordid way of life, the women as well as the men."

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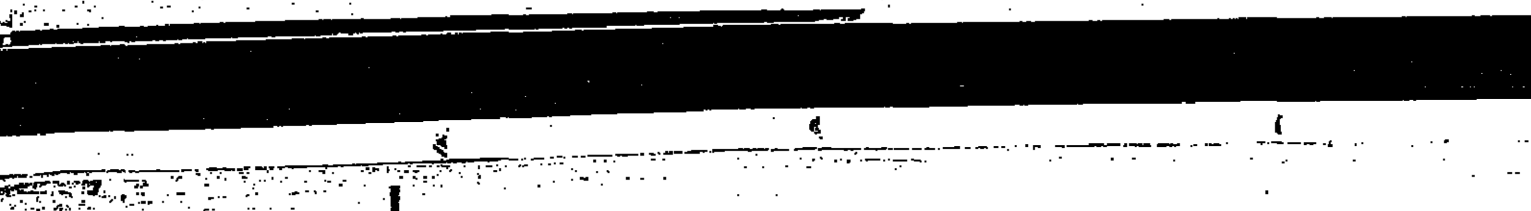

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'Your money ends with policemen being killed'

Blair asks Americans to stop funding Sinn Fein

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR, IN DENVER

TONY BLAIR appealed to the American people to stop giving money for terrorism yesterday as he arrived to seek President Clinton's backing for a fresh attempt next week to revive the Northern Ireland peace process.

The Prime Minister is seizing on a wave of revulsion that has followed last Monday's murder of two policemen in Lurgan, Co Armagh, to put extra pressure on Sinn Fein to call a ceasefire and come to the peace table. He said: "I am saying to the American people: those of you who have any attachment to Sinn Fein should know that any money you give now ends up with policemen being killed in cold blood on the streets."

Mr Blair, in Denver for the Summit of the Eight, will today brief the President on a statement he intends to make to the Commons next Tuesday or Wednesday setting out his proposals for moving ahead with or without Sinn Fein. He wants Mr Clinton to put additional pressure on Sinn Fein for an IRA ceasefire.

The briefing will include details of secret efforts made by the Government to bring the republicans into multiparty talks. Mr Blair is expected to gamble next week by revealing many of the details to MPs. It is clear he wants to make one final attempt to include Sinn Fein.

Senior ministers believe that Sinn Fein is feeling increasingly isolated after the wave of revulsion in America, Ireland and among its own supporters over last Monday's murders. Mr Blair believes the shooting was "an act of sabotage" by the IRA, or elements of it, designed to scupper the peace effort. The Government has received private messages from Sinn Fein that they were in no way involved, and security services are assessing this claim.

Louis J. Freeh, the FBI director, expressed his outrage at the killings yesterday and said: "These cowardly murders outraged the consciences of all law-abiding people. The FBI will enhance its efforts with its law enforcement partners in Northern Ireland, Ireland and Britain to ensure that the terrorists will be fully prosecuted, together with their organisational support and resources."

Despite Mr Clinton's heavy schedule in chairing the summit, he has asked for two separate private meetings with Mr Blair at which the main subject will be Northern Ireland. There have been reports that Mr Clinton is fast losing patience with Sinn Fein and is considering breaking off contacts with the party and its president, Gerry Adams. Downing Street officials travelling with Mr Blair appeared cautious about such a move.

A senior official said: "He thinks it is important to set out what we have been doing, and what we can do to take things forward. The Prime Minister was pleased that President Clinton issued such a clear condemnation of what happened in Lurgan and he wants to brief the President on how he believes the peace process can go forward."

Downing Street have not sought to deny that the Lurgan killings were a serious blow to hopes of a settlement. But officials said that Mr Blair had ideas about pushing the process forward. Mr Blair will urge Mr Clinton to keep up the pressure on the Sinn Fein and IRA to announce a new ceasefire. The Government broke off all relations with Sinn Fein after the Lurgan killings.

Mr Blair will hold confidential talks on Ulster with William Hague, the new Tory leader, after his return from the Denver economic summit and the Rio Two environmental summit in New York.

Summit, pages 14 and 15

A well-wisher hugs Patrick Kane after his conviction was overturned yesterday

Corporal Wood minutes before his death in 1988

Conviction for killing soldiers is overturned

BY NICHOLAS WATT
CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

A MAN jailed for life for aiding and abetting the murders of two army corporals at an IRA funeral in West Belfast in 1988 was freed yesterday after the Court of Appeal quashed his conviction.

Jubilant relatives and supporters of Patrick Kane cheered as he was freed by a judge at the High Court in Belfast after nine years in jail. Mr Kane, 39, was one of three men convicted in 1990 for aiding and abetting the murders of Derek Wood and David Howes in March 1988. The corporals were dragged out of their car, beaten and shot after they were caught in the path of an IRA funeral in the Andersonstown area of Belfast.

The trial judge ruled that the men were part of a "joint enterprise" to murder the corporals. The three lost their appeals, but Mr Kane's case was referred back to the Court of Appeal by the former Northern Ireland Secretary, Lord Mayhew of Twysden.

Lord Justice McCollum said yesterday that he had been persuaded to overturn the verdict after hearing evidence from Dr Gisli Gudjonsson, a forensic psychologist from Norway, that Mr Kane had the literacy and numerical skills of an 11-year-old.

Mr Kane was not in court to hear the judgment because a prison van taking him to the High Court was held up in traffic. But wild clapping and cheering broke out in court among relatives and supporters as his conviction was quashed. Mr Kane's elderly parents, Barney and Maureen, from West Belfast, were hugged by their other children as they waited for their son to arrive.

When Mr Kane eventually arrived, he was mobbed by relatives and friends shouting: "You're free, Paddy, you're free."

Overcome with emotion, he said: "I have been in jail for nearly nine years of my life for something I had nothing to do with. I suppose the court will say they gave me justice today. But justice should have been nine years ago. I should never have done a day in jail."

RUC chief raises hope of peace at Drumcree

BY A STAFF REPORTER

THE head of the RUC has voiced his belief that any trouble at next month's contentious Orange Order parade in Drumcree will be less serious than the violence of last year's event.

Ronnie Flanagan, the Chief Constable, said yesterday that, although he saw little chance of nationalists and loyalists reaching an agreement over the march, he thought that both sides wanted it to be as peaceful as possible.

Last year violence erupted throughout Northern Ireland when Orangemen were allowed to march through a Roman Catholic area of Portadown after initially being blocked by the RUC. This year the Orangemen are refusing to meet the Catholic residents' group that is opposed to their parade, which will take place in two weeks.

Mr Flanagan said the two sides showed no sign of reaching a "conclusion with which they both can live", but added: "I see very encouraging signs that on both sides they are saying, 'Whatever we do we will keep it peaceful.' While I think there will be some trouble, I remain confident that it will not be of the scale or the nature of last year."

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Five years after the green summit, world leaders are to review progress

JAMES MORGAN

Alan Waters making charcoal at the Weald and Downland open-air museum in Sussex. A British scheme has revived local production of charcoal

Global rise in car ownership hits efforts to curb pollution

By Nick Nuttall
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE number of cars in use worldwide is forecast to rise to 500 million by next year, undermining international efforts to curb air pollution and halt global warming, experts said yesterday. In Britain the number of cars has risen from 20.4 million in 1992 to more than 21.3 million.

Tony Juniper, of Friends of the Earth, who is a member of the British delegation to the United Nations environment summit in New York this weekend, said yesterday: "There are more cars in Britain than in sub-Saharan Africa, India and China. But this is set to change as rapid economic and population growth in the developing world dwarfs our use of resources."

He was speaking on the eve of the UN's special general assembly which is to review progress on the environment five years after the Rio Earth Summit. Reports by UN agencies and environmental research institutes paint a gloomy picture. "Unless there is fundamental change in energy patterns and resource consumption, global catastrophe will be on us before the middle of the next century," Mr Juniper said.

Since 1992 an area of forest five times the size of England has been logged or cleared in developing countries, according to the UN's Food and Agricultural Organisation. In the Amazon region of South America, the rate of deforestation has risen from 11,000 square kilometres a year to 15,000 square kilometres since the Rio summit. The damage to the forests means that thousands of animal and plant species may have become extinct in the past five years, at the rate of between one and three an hour.

About 112 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide, the gas linked to global warming, have been released into the atmosphere since 1992, raising the level from 356 parts per million to 364. Only Britain, Russia and Germany are on course to meet their Rio commitments to stabilise emissions of CO_2 at 1990 levels by 2000. Third World debt, which it is claimed is pushing developing countries into environmentally damaging schemes such as logging, mining and industrial fishing, has risen during the same period from $1,662 billion to $2,000 billion.

But hopes that the conference will address these concerns are looking slim, with international disagreements looming over the issue of foreign aid. Europe's officials are trying to beef up the Rio convention's commitments covering climate change and Mr Blair will reaffirm Britain's pledge to cut CO_2 emissions by 20 per cent by 2010. However, the G77 countries, representing the poor nations as well as the oil-producing states, have been blocking all new agreements. They are claiming that the richer countries have reneged on an agreement to give 0.7 per cent of their gross national product to green schemes in the Third World.

Since 1992 the percentage that rich nations give has dropped from 0.34 to 0.27, the lowest since 1970. Since 1985 the amount of Britain's wealth given in aid has fallen from 0.33 per cent to 0.28 per cent, according to the UN's recent human development report.

Leading article, page 21

Ancient industry points way to the future

By Nick Nuttall

A BRITISH project to produce charcoal for barbecues from local resources is to be unveiled in New York when world leaders review progress on the environment.

The scheme, which involves coppicing woodlands, and is backed by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, the National Trust, BP, B&Q and other organisations, shows that saving wildlife and conserving the environment can be profitable. John Browne, head of BP, said yesterday: "Sustainable development is increasingly important to consumers. The organisers of this scheme have approached it not only with imagination but *also with commercial sense.*"

The project has brought back 100 neglected British woodlands back into production. Britain's forests once supported a thriving industry based on coppicing to produce charcoal and materials for fence-making and basket-weaving. But since the war, cheap imports of charcoal, produced from felling rain forests and from mangrove swamps which are vital for wildlife, have poured into Britain to support a rise in the popularity of barbecues.

The scheme, backed by the BioRegional Charcoal Company, a charity, is helping to supply income to foresters and reduce imports of environmentally damaging charcoal. It was chosen by the World Wide Fund for Nature as one of eight first-rate sustainable development projects from round the world. The product is slightly more expensive than the imported charcoal but is claimed to burn better and for longer. Dr Alan Knight, environmental controller at B & Q, said that the company hoped to have British charcoal, supplied by 70 burners in most of its 283 stores by the end of the year.

Prescott reprieves oast house

By Alexandra Frean, local government correspondent

JOHN PRESCOTT has come to the rescue of an amateur builder trying to stop a council returning an 18th-century oast house to a derelict state.

John Panvert, a former National Hunt jockey, did not realise that planning permission was needed when restoring the derelict Kettleshill Oast in Underriver, Kent. Sevenoaks council ordered him to reverse the repairs.

Mr Panvert won a temporary reprieve when Mr Prescott conceded in a letter that Department of Environment inspectors had used "inadequate reasoning" when they dismissed his appeal against the council's order. The Environment Secretary has ordered inspectors to reconsider the appeal.

Mr Panvert yesterday described the decision as a "moral victory" and added: "It cannot be in the public's interest to order that a beautiful old building should be half-demolished." He bought the twin-towered oast house and its adjoining barn for £12,000 in 1988. He began rebuilding and had just repaired the roof in 1989 when Sevenoaks District Council ordered that he should pull down his repairs.

Vic Jennings, chairman of the council's development control sub-committee, said the council did not want to demolish the oast house, but wanted the removal of new building works carried out in the Green Belt without planning permission.

Royal plea on the big cheeses

By Gillian Bowditch, Scotland correspondent, and Michael Hornsby

THE Prince of Wales is to be asked to help save hundreds of traditional cheeses, including such names as roquefort and farmhouse camembert, which are threatened by American demands for a world ban on the use of raw milk.

The Prince is patron of Britain's Specialist Cheesemakers' Association, which is mounting a European campaign to resist the ban. American officials maintain that cheeses made from raw milk are dangerous because they have not undergone the heat-treatment involved in pasteurisation which destroys bacteria. Specialist producers say this gives their cheeses their uniquely rich flavour.

The United States is expected to table a banning motion at the September meeting of the Codex Alimentarius, a body run by the Geneva-based World Health Organisation and the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organisation, which has 129 member countries and sets international food safety standards. Arthur Cunynghame, chairman of the association and director of the cheese purveyors Paxton & Whitfield, said: "We have written to the new Government asking its view." The Prince would be informed once a response was received.

EU rules allow raw milk to be used provided it comes from cows free of disease, passes tests for microbiological contamination, and satisfies a range of hygiene conditions.

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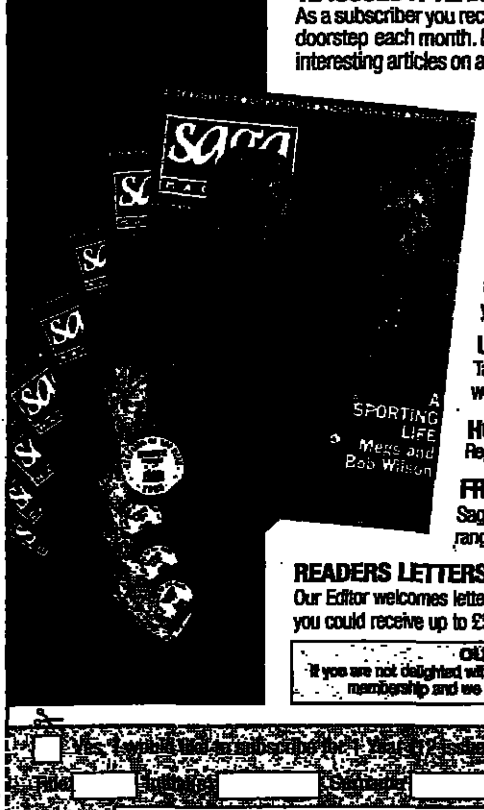

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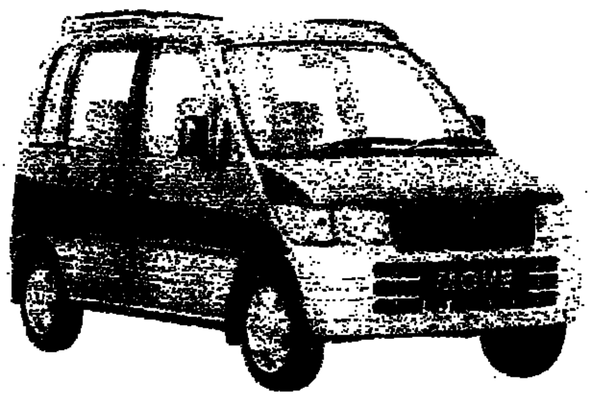

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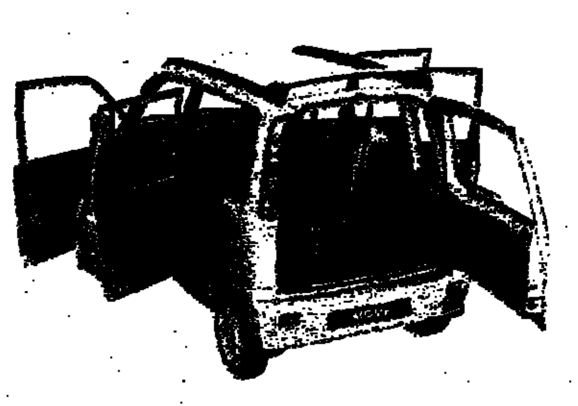

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'Students are becoming frustrated by a city that feels more like Disneyland than a place to study'

Oxbridge rises up against horde of foreign invaders

By Mark Henderson

Commentary from tourist buses has upset students

THE historic tensions between town and gown, once the greatest threat to the summer calm of Britain's famous university cities, are being eclipsed by a new problem.

Some 7.5 million people visit the 76 colleges in Oxford and Cambridge each year and, as examinations approach, they cause more problems than the traditional animosity between students and locals.

Undergraduates at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, were threatened with expulsion this week after they pelted a tour bus with fruit in exasperation at its noisy commentary. Other colleges called recently for tighter policing of tourist on punts who block the Backs and disturb finalists' revision.

Oxford students have complained about noise outside the Examination Schools and the Bodleian Library, and others report that nosy tourists photograph them on the way to the shower. Sarah Bonnett, a former student union president of Sidney Sussex and president-elect of Cambridge University Student Union, said: "The fruit-throwing at Sidney was symptomatic of the way students are getting frustrated by a city that feels more like a tourist Disneyland than a place to study. Some of us, particularly the finalists, have just had enough."

Revision and examinations are routinely interrupted by noise, even when many colleges shut their doors to visitors in June. Ms Bonnett sat examinations in Chapter House, on a tourist route to King's and Clare colleges. "The tourists had no idea that we were sitting the most important and stressful exams of our life while they were causing a racket," she said.

Oxford students complain of similar problems. The Examination Schools are next to one of the main set-downs for coach services from London, and the Old Bodleian and Radcliffe Camera are must-sees on any tour.

Colleges try to lessen the impact on the cities with admission charges, guided tours and closed periods during examinations but the sheer number of visitors is making attempts to control them difficult. Each year more than 3.5 million visit Cambridge, a town of 110,000; Oxford, at 132,000, attracts about four million visitors and tourist authorities say numbers are on the increase.

Students at Emmanuel College have also complained about the open-top Guide Friday bus that passes accommodation blocks with loud commentary. "There is no privacy at all and it's impossible to work," Patrick McDermott, a Sidney Sussex undergraduate, said. A rival tour bus has won plaudits for giving its passengers headphones, but Guide Friday has no plans to cut the noise.

Local people, too, are upset. Joan Stevens, a Cambridge barmaid, said: "The students don't see the worst of it. When they all go home the place fills up with foreign-language students. If you think it's crowded and noisy in June, try it in August."

TOURIST TRAPS

☐ **More than 8.2 million tourists visit Oxford, Cambridge and Durham each year. Oxford attracts 4 million, Cambridge 3.5 million and Durham about 700,000.**

☐ **Oxford has 22,000 students, Cambridge 20,000 and Durham 8,000. Students form 20 per cent of Durham's inhabitants, and 17 per cent each in Oxford and Cambridge.**

☐ **Cambridge attracts 32 visitors for every resident. Oxford attracts 30 and Durham 18.**

☐ **More than a million tourists visited King's College, Cambridge, in 1992, a year before admission charges. Numbers fell to 500,000 last year.**

ASHLEY COOMBES

Noise protest: Sarah Bonnett and Patrick McDermott

Accent on class for undergraduates who head north

By Mark Henderson

DURHAM suffers some of the worst relations between town and gown. Conflict is still keen in a largely working-class city whose 40,000 inhabitants are joined by 8,000 students, mainly middle-class southerners.

Many city-centre pubs become no-go areas for students at the weekends, as young men pour into Durham from the surrounding villages. Fights and student-baiting are common, and most students try to keep out of the way, drinking in the union or college bars.

"Many residents are still very anti-student and very anti-southern," said Alan Proctor, acting president of Durham's student union. "There are still pubs where students wouldn't be seen dead. If they were seen there, they would be dead."

He said relations were improving slightly on the back of a community action programme, under which students teach remedial classes in local schools and help the handicapped and the elderly, but the city remained essentially divided.

Albert Cartmell, Vice-Master of University College, said tensions had been worsened by the closure of most of the Co Durham mines over the past decade. "The unemployment in the pit villages is a big problem, and you do get young working-class men taking their frustrations out on the students. In Cambridge, you have a town which is middle class, where most of the young people will go to university themselves. Durham is very different."

Neil Goss, a Durham taxi-driver, said students were slowly learning not to antagonise local people: "They are better than they used to be. At least they keep themselves to themselves."

Durham students do not suffer from the tourist plague which afflicts their counterparts at Oxford and Cambridge, but an increasing volume of visitors is adding to the city's worries. More than 700,000 tourists visit Durham every year.

Rowers on the Wear weave between pleasure boats, coaches cause havoc on steep city-centre streets and students are starting to complain about noisy tour groups disrupting studies. Those sitting examinations at the Durham Union's Pemberton Building on Palace Green have to deal with noise from visitors to the cathedral and the castle.

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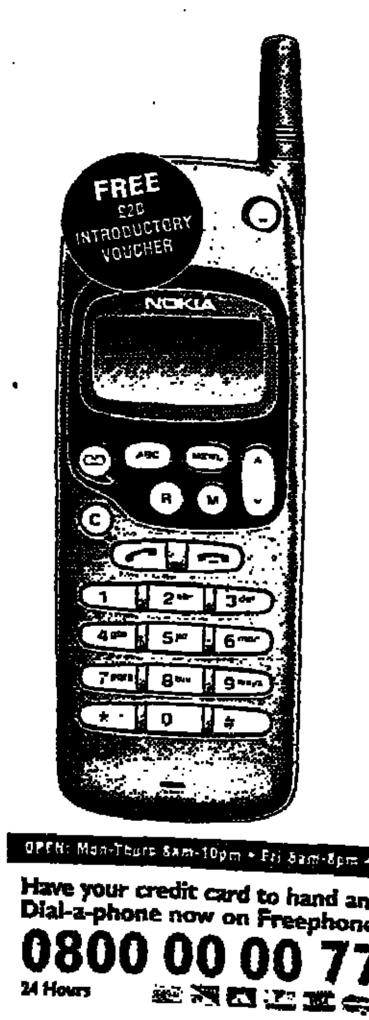

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Name of First World War soldier shot at dawn will be added to cenotaph after 80 years

Town honours sergeant executed for cowardice

By Paul Wilkinson

A SOLDIER shot at dawn for cowardice on the battlefield is to have his name added to the roll of honour on his home town's war memorial, 80 years after his execution.

The public acknowledgment of Lance Sergeant William Stones, 25, is the first success for a growing campaign to exonerate 307 soldiers executed for allegedly failing to do their duty in the trenches of the First World War.

Last month the Goverment announced that it was to re-examine their cases. It is now believed many were suffering what is today diagnosed as post-traumatic stress disorder.

Yesterday the news that the small Co Durham market town of Crook was to add the name of Willy Stones to the memorial was greated with tears of joy by Tom Stones, his great-nephew. He discovered his great-uncle's fate only last year while researching his family tree and has campaigned since then for his exoneration. Mr Stones, 56, a microbiologist from Stafford, said: "I thought I would have to make a representation to the local council, but they have done it off their own bat."

Stones's guilty verdict for "shamefully casting his rifle away" in the face of the enemy was brought in despite his denial and testimonials from his officers that he was a "keen and bold" soldier.

When Mr Stones launched his campaign, he said: "When I read the trial papers I thought, 'How in God's name could they find him guilty?' I say he was murdered. Even now some of his wife's descendants don't want to know about this, but I am really proud of him."

Mr Stones will attend a formal ceremony to mark the addition of his great-uncle's name to the town's cenotaph later this year, wits h council leaders, representatives of the Royal British Legion and former members of his great-uncle's regiment, the Durham Light Infantry.

Sergeant Stones was sentenced on Christmas Eve 1916 to die for his cowardice. A month later he and two other NCOs were executed by a firing squad in a snow-covered farmyard.

Corporal A.E. Rochester, who witnessed the event, later wrote: "Manacled and blindfolded they are tied up to the stakes. Over each man's heart is placed an envelope. At the sign of command, the firing parties, 12 for each, align their rifles on the envelopes. The officer in charge holds his stick aloft and, as it falls, 36 bullets usher the souls of three of Kitchener's men to the great unknown."

He goes on: "I could tell you of the silence of the military police after reading one letter from a little girl to 'Dear Daddy', of the blood-stained snow that horrified the French peasants, of the chaplain's confession that braver men he had never met than those three men he prayed with just before the fatal dawn ..."

The Stones case was one of several taken up by Julian Putowski in his book *Shot At Dawn*. He said: "It is wonderful news that the council is to honour Sergeant Stones. He and other men like him were true heroes and should be remembered that way."

John Hipkin, 70, of Newcastle upon Tyne, another campaigner, said: "I am elated at the council's decision to honour Lance Sergeant Stones. It is a step in the right direction. I hope that other towns will follow Crook's example and bring honour to these young men."

Olive Brown, leader of the Labour-run Wear Valley council, said: "We decided not to wait for an official pardon to come through but to honour a brave man in the most fitting way we could. He was a hero and did not deserve to die in the way that he did."

ALBAN DONOHOE

Sergeant William Stones: court martial sentenced him to death by firing squad

Jet ordeal stowaway 'thought he was on ship'

By Stephen Farrell

A SIKH stowaway who flew to Heathrow from Delhi in the wheel bay of a jumbo jet was so confused that he told officials he had travelled by ship, an immigration appeal hearing was told yesterday.

Pardeep Saini, 22, is challenging the Home Office decision to refuse asylum, and claims he would be persecuted by the Punjabi authorities if returned to India. The hearing was told that, in interviews after he was found on the tarmac on October 12, Mr Saini gave different accounts of his family background and how he boarded the aircraft.

His lawyer, Elizabeth Jenkins, said he had suffered mental damage and would now be unable to look after himself in India, where he had no surviving relatives. She claimed he should not have been interviewed so soon after surviving temperatures of -60C on the ten-hour flight, during which his brother Vijay, 18, died of hypothermia and fell 2,000ft. The hearing adjudicator reserved her decision.

Tuition bill for medical studies may hit £10,000

By David Charter
Education Correspondent

MEDICAL students face paying course fees of £10,000 under proposals for a sliding scale of tuition charges in the Government's review of higher education.

The review, led by Sir Ron Dearing, is considering making students pay a quarter of their tuition costs, amounting to £2,000 a year for high-cost courses such as medicine and veterinary science. But students on low-cost arts courses, such as English, would pay a few hundred pounds.

Although the principle has strong support in Sir Ron's committee, its proponents are divided over whether to back the sliding scale, an annual fee of £1,000, or a nominal charge of several hundred. The charge will not be in advance but become part of maintenance loan repayments.

Douglas Trainer, president of the National Union of Students, said students would fight tooth and nail against any payment for tuition. "The threat of fees is striking fear into potential students and their parents who are thinking about their future higher education," he said.

Sir Ron's final report is due to be published on July 17.

Golfers bag the record for fastest 18 holes

By A Staff Reporter

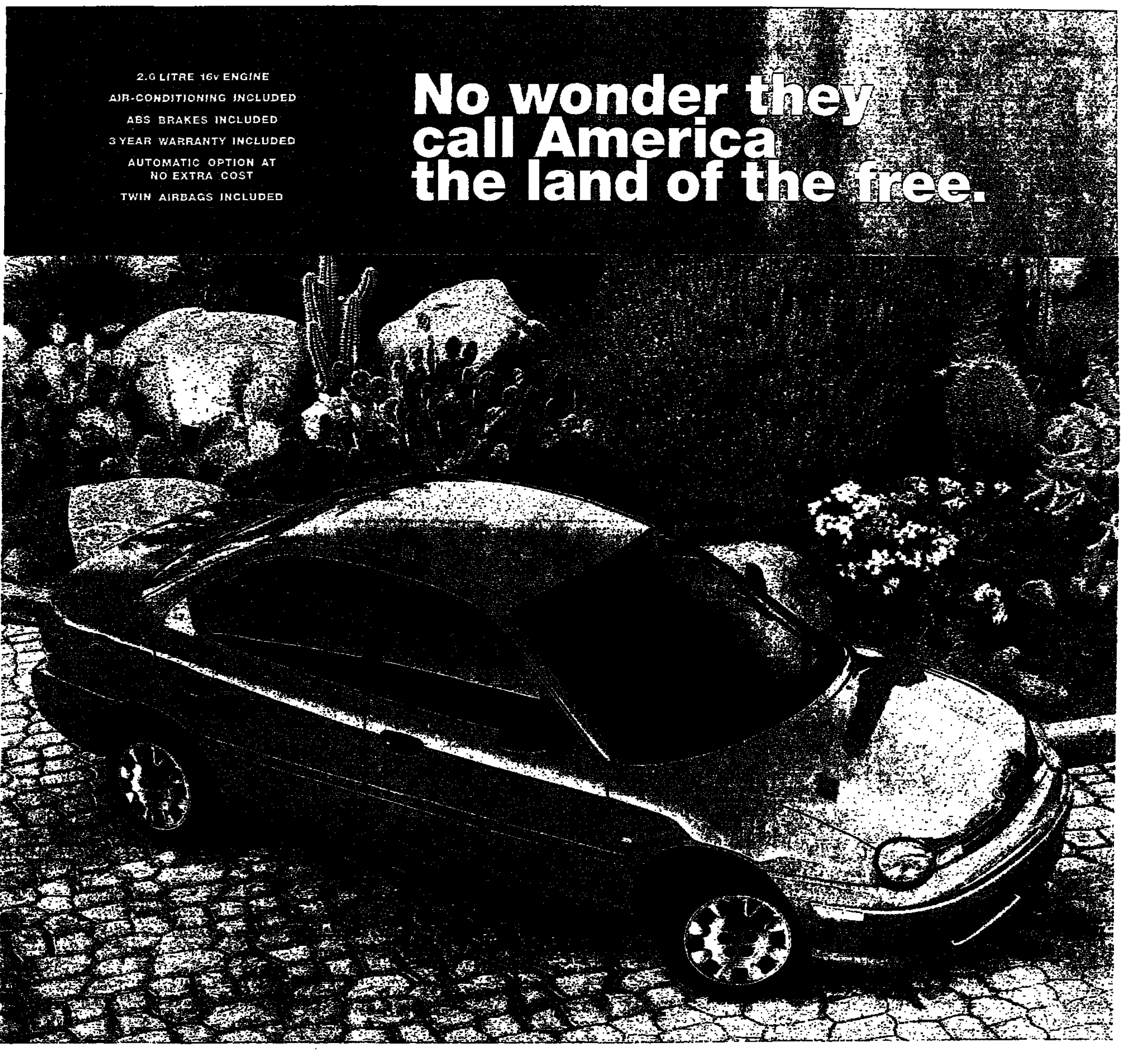
A GROUP of golfers are claiming the British record for completing 18 holes in 14 minutes. A game played at the conventional pace usually takes three to four hours.

The 80 players were positioned around the par-71 course at Dereham Golf Club in Norfolk, with each shot being hit by the one closest to the ball. As each putt was sunk, a marshal signalled for the player on the next tee to drive off. Lost balls were immediately replayed.

The group, ranging from scratch golfers to occasional hackers, beat North Fife Rotary Club's record for a course of more than 6,500 yards by 48 seconds. It was their third attempt and the light was fading as the ball was played down the eighteenth.

Norman Simmons, the organiser, said: "It was an incredible feat. The ball was moving so fast that nobody had a chance to count the number of shots, but it must have been well over a hundred."

A spokeswoman for the *Guinness Book of Records* said: "We don't keep British records in this category so we cannot say if this attempt in Norfolk is the fastest."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THE SUNDAY TIMES

IRMA THE BRAVE

❛'What happened then, Daddy?' 'The grenade exploded behind you. It wounded mum, Vera and you. Mummy is not well at all . . .' I think that she knew the truth then, but she just looked at me and said nothing❜

A Bosnian father tells his daughter's tragic story

Tomorrow in News Review

THE SUNDAY TIMES *IS* THE SUNDAY PAPERS

Judge blames guide for fatal climbing accident

By Adrian Lee

A MOUNTAIN guide was ordered yesterday to pay damages of up to £200,000 to the young son of a climber who fell to his death in the French Alps.

David Cuthberison failed to take "elementary and fundamental" precautions to ensure the safety of his friend and client, Gerry Hedley, during the final ascent of a 12,000ft peak. Mr Justice Dyson ruled at the High Court. He said the decision should not open the floodgates for claims against guides whenever there was an accident. Climbing was a dangerous sport and only those who failed to minimise the danger to their charges would be liable.

The precise sum of damages for Mr Hedley's son, Daniel, 6, who was not born at the time of the fall, will be fixed later. The climber's widow said that she hoped the case would lead to a review of safety. But the British Mountaineering Council, which represents 36,000 climbers and hill walkers, emphasised that people ventured into the mountains at their own risk. It fears the ruling will encourage more climbers to sue, push up insurance premiums for guides and deter some from tackling certain climbs.

David Cuthbertson, left, and his client, Gerry Hedley

In his haste to escape a possible rockfall during the ascent of Tour Ronde, Mr Cuthbertson, 49, of Inverness, failed to protect Mr Hedley, the judge said. Crucially, he used one ice-screw to create an anchor, or belay, when to use two was the accepted standard.

The judge said there must be "powerful and overriding reasons" to abandon the universal procedure. "This was no emergency. Nothing had happened to suggest a rockfall was about to occur." In any case, making do with one ice-screw would have saved only 30 seconds.

After the ruling, Mr Cuthbert said in a statement that he was considering an appeal. "It is only with the benefit of perfect hindsight that the court has reached the conclusion it has."

Mr Cuthbertson was leading the climb in July 1990 when ice gave way beneath his feet and he fell, dragging Mr Hedley, 41, an inexperienced climber, 120ft on to rocks. The judge said that Mr Cuthbertson's actions were not those of a reasonably competent guide. He made a "serious mistake . . . with tragic consequences which will live in his memory for the rest of his life". The risk of being hit by rocks, loosened by melting snow, was remote but a fall was forseeable.

The judge said that the guide had ample time to think and, even with the "benefit of hindsight, his decision could not be justified".

Mr Hedley's widow, Lynda Woodroffe, 48, of Kilburn, northwest London, broke down as the judgment was given. She had planned to tell her husband, an art conservationist, the day after his climb that she was pregnant. "His death cheated me of seeing the look on his face when I broke the news."

She said she felt deep sadness for Mr Cuthbertson, who was covered by insurance. It took her and John Gillman, her solicitor, several years to get the case to court. French police refused to release their report, which was critical of Mr Cuthbertson, for three years until her MP, Ken Livingstone, intervened.

ANDRÉ CAMARA

Lynda Woodroffe and her son, Daniel Hedley, who could receive up to £200,000

Employees 'scared to admit they are stressed'

By Alexandra Frean
Social Affairs Correspondent

PEOPLE are not seeking help for stress at work because they are afraid of being seen as weak or mentally ill, the Health and Safety Commission said yesterday.

Frank Davies, the commission's chairman, said that misunderstandings about the nature of stress were preventing many companies tackling its causes and effects in the workplace. "Some organisations take the view that stress is not their problem, but an individual's," he said.

Mr Davies, speaking at the opening of a TUC conference on stress, quoted a study by the Health and Safety Executive which showed that about 7,500 employees a year miss work because of stress, costing businesses more than £100 million. A study by the charity Mind suggested that between 25 and 50 per cent of sickness absence is attributable to stress.

Mr Davies said that employers could help by making sure that targets can be achieved, ensuring that staff are dealt with in a consistent and fair way, and by allowing them a say in controlling their working environment.

Car crash trauma led to illness, court rules

By a Staff Reporter

THE courts yesterday recognised that multiple sclerosis can be triggered by the trauma of an accident.

Judge Kenny, sitting at the High Court, awarded more than £300,000 damages to a former chauffeur who developed the illness after suffering whiplash injuries when his car collided with a fire engine and was knocked about 40 yards. The judge accepted expert evidence that Joseph Kennedy began suffering from the disease after the accident.

Mr Kennedy, 47, of Croydon, southeast London, noticed symptoms within three months of the crash in June 1989. It had caused "mild brain damage" and pelvic injuries which left Mr Kennedy impotent, although with medical help he fathered two children. However, the accident had caused the breakdown of his marriage.

The London Fire and Civil Defence Authority was found 75 per cent liable for the accident and ordered to pay Mr Kennedy £337,617. The judge ordered a stay on £100,000 of the damages, pending a possible appeal on whether the accident triggered multiple sclerosis.

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مكتبة الأهرام

Couple split up as they win fight to be married

Wedding day: Stephen Grant and the Earnshaws

By Ruth Gledhill
Religion Correspondent

A COUPLE whose church wedding was conducted by a young man on work experience have separated, it was disclosed yesterday. The news of their break-up came just days after Church of England officials declared that the marriage was valid.

Rodney and Shirley Earnshaw, both 25, married in August at St John's Church in Huddersfield. Stephen Grant, 19, a student working as a church server, stepped in to take the service because the real clergyman was late. The couple sought legal advice when they found that Mr Grant was not a priest.

Mr Earnshaw, a factory worker, has moved out of their semi-detached home and is living with his mother. Mrs Earnshaw, a cosmetic saleswoman, said: "There is a great strain on our relationship and this whole situation has proved to be very stressful to us."

Her estranged husband's mother, Hilary Earnshaw, said: "I don't want to talk about this at all."

The question of the validity of their marriage had sent Church of England lawyers scurrying to ancient case-law books. Officials from the Wakefield diocese declared the marriage to be valid last week, on the ground that the couple genuinely believed that the vicar was real.

Yesterday a spokesman said: "This is a unique and very unfortunate situation and I am very sorry to hear the news of the couple's separation."

Mr Grant, of Bolster Moor, Huddersfield, said: "I am deeply saddened by this news. My thoughts and prayers have been with them since this whole thing started. I do hope they can reconcile their differences and I offer my best wishes to them for when they try to resume their marriage."

Mr Grant, who hopes to seek ordination after completing his studies at St David's University College, in Lampeter, Wales, added that he was sure the split would be temporary: "I am very confident that this problem can be resolved because they seemed to be a very committed and strong couple who loved each other very much."

Bishop's plea to divided parish

By Our Religion Correspondent

A BISHOP has made a plea for unity at an idyllic Essex church whose congregation was split by plans to rebuild the organ.

The Bishop of Chelmsford, the Right Rev John Perry, launched a campaign for mission and renewal in a service at the 12th-century St Mary's church in Langham, which overlooks the Dedham Vale and features in Constable paintings.

Seven members of the parochial church council resigned earlier this year over plans by the rector, the Rev John Cardell-Oliver, to remove a 127-year-old organ and replace it with a new one using most of the old pipes, as part of wider rebuilding.

Bishop Perry refrained from making any judgmental comment about the troubles in the parish, but spoke out in support of the building plans. He said that an Anglican spiritual renewal programme was "a programme of renewing the life of the church and its mission under God in the whole area".

At the service, the Langham church support trust launched a public campaign to raise funds for the programme: £50,000 is needed in the next year, with another £69,000 after that.

Hero of IRA blast joins monastery to spread peace

By A Staff Reporter

CARL ROYLE

Tony Gorrell rescuing baby Samuel Hughes after the Manchester IRA blast

A SECURITY guard who rescued a baby caught in last year's IRA bombing of Manchester is to become a monk. Tony Gorrell, 31, said: "The stress, trauma and the horrors that I saw on that day have shown me that this is what I need to do."

Twelve months after the explosion, Mr Gorrell of Radford, Coventry, has announced his intention to join the Order of the Good Shepherd, helping the needy. He will make his vows of poverty, chastity and obedience later this year.

Mr Gorrell had been working in the Manchester Arndale Centre for the Coventry firm Euroguard Security and was helping to clear the area when the bomb went off at 11.20am, showering a baby's pushchair with glass. He picked up the child and took him to medics near by.

Mr Gorrell, who is a Roman Catholic, said that the past 12 months had been the most difficult in his life and that only his faith had pulled him through. He said that never a day went by when he did not think about the horrors he witnessed in the bombing. There were times when he woke in the night in a cold sweat, reliving his fear of the moment the bomb went off.

"It does get easier, but the memories never go away," he said. "It made me realise there is more need for peace in this world. I have always been a devout person, but what happened last year has pushed me even more into doing what I'm doing.

"I am not interested in money or material things, I just want to help people and give something back. I had been thinking about joining a religious order for a few years but the Manchester experience has reinforced it."

Mr Gorrell, who is single and lives with his mother, will spend six months in Wolverhampton before undertaking a 12-month training programme in Canada. He will live in a community with 40 other monks.

Earlier this month he won an out-of-court settlement from the security firm after alleging constructive dismissal. He claimed he had been placed under undue pressure after going back to work following the explosion. Mr Gorrell said the four-figure sum, which has not been paid yet, would mean nothing to him. "I didn't do it for the money, I did it because I wanted others to know I haven't done anything wrong."

Now working for a haulage company at Hinckley, Leicestershire, Mr Gorrell said that joining the order was "a decision you don't take lightly. There will be no pay cheque at the end of the week, or luxuries. But the important thing to me is that each day I will be helping people, and that each one will go away satisfied.

"I am really looking forward to it and I am not worried about giving anything up. Everyone has something to do in life and this is mine. I will still be able to see my family and I will be helping people every day." During the initial stages of his training he will be based at the Good Shepherd Trust community in Wolverhampton. One of its main aims is to help the homeless and disadvantaged, offering a daily meal and clothing service.

He has visited the community three times for interviews and trial periods. Eventually he would like to work in the Third World.

Credo

Listen, we can heal gay rift

John Habgood

In the days when clergy used to say the whole Psalter every month, including the cursing sections now enclosed in square brackets, I used to look forward to the reference in Psalm 58 to "the deaf adder that stoppeth her ears; which refuseth to hear the voice of the charmer, charm he never so wisely".

The psalm singles out unwillingness to listen as the epitome of wickedness. Nor is it hard to see why. To stop one's ears against someone is to deny that they are the neighbour whom we are commanded to love.

Yet listening can be extraordinarily difficult. The widening rift between two extreme groups in the Church of England on the subject of homosexuality is evidence of this. The protagonists of both extremes stop their ears in the absolute conviction that they are right. Conservative Christians hold that the matter has been settled for all time by what they interpret as the strong scriptural condemnations of homosexual practice.

In reality they are defending a belief about Scripture rather than about homosexuality as such. Accusations of homophobia, narrowmindedness, intransigence and so forth may in some instances be justified, because even conservative Christians are sinners. But on the whole such criticisms miss the point, because they do not recognise or address the main concern. They therefore remain unheard.

Campaigning homosexuals speak of new understandings of sexuality, the validity of personal experience and the need for self-acceptance. The message as frequently perceived by their opponents, however, is that they are advocating promiscuity, corrupting the young and undermining marriage.

Such an interpretation may in some cases be justified, because homosexual Christians, too, are sinners. But wholesale condemnation of homosexuality, like wholesale condemnation of conservative Christianity, entails a refusal to hear what is actually being said. There can be no way out of this impasse unless both sides are willing to unstop their ears. This does not mean agreeing with beliefs which may be deeply repugnant, but it does mean recognising that God sometimes speaks to people through those whom they would most like to dismiss.

The Churches have pleaded for years that apparently irreconcilable opponents in Northern Ireland should listen to one another, and search for some common ground. It would be ironic if Christians were unable to do the same in a matter which concerns their own internal unity.

So where do we begin? The first step, I believe, is to acknowledge that the issue is not going to be settled by strongarm tactics, publicity stunts or accusations of bad faith. The heart of the problem lies in the nature of Christian belief itself. A faith which takes history seriously cannot escape the tension between loyalty to what has been given in the past and receptiveness to contemporary knowledge and experience.

It follows that there will always be contested areas, that not all questions have simple answers, and that not all moral dilemmas are soluble, at least in the short term.

For both sides to admit that homosexuality is a genuinely contested area would be a major step forward. It would allow the mutual exploration of different beliefs, without the threat of takeover bids. It could lead to the mapping of some areas of common concern, and perhaps to agreement on some moral boundaries. Within the areas of uncertainty and disagreement, there might be growth in mutual respect.

It will not be easy, and on the sidelines there will be those who cry, "fudge, hypocrisy and compromise". I would myself describe it as a small advance in learning afresh how to love even our most uncharming neighbour.

☐ *Lord Habgood is former Archbishop of York*

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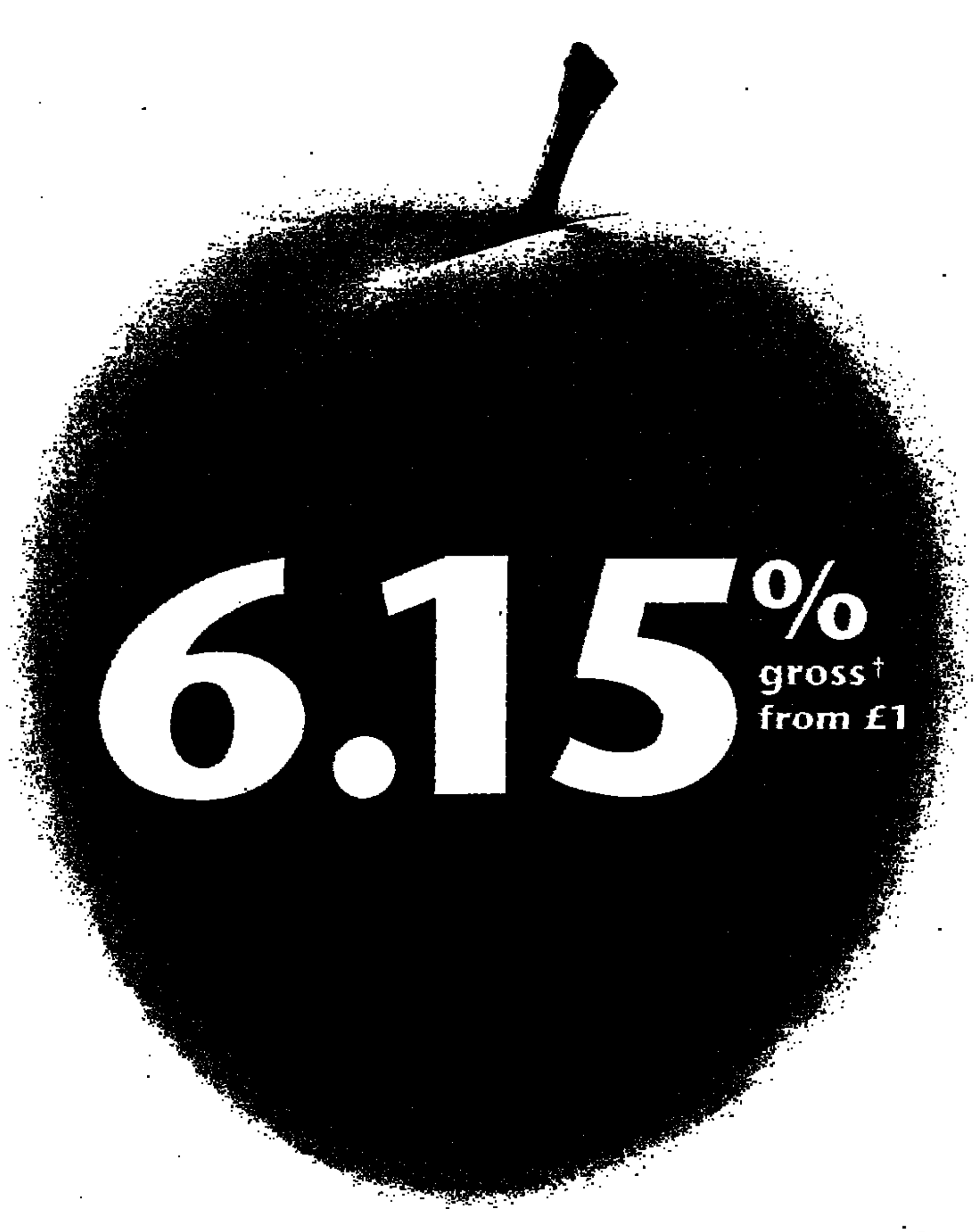

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Who is responsible?

56 years ago today, on the 22nd of June 1941, the most gruesome and brutal war in the history of mankind began. Hitler named it "Barbarossa'. It cost 55 million humans their lives.

The paranoid Hitler's first aim was to conquer the whole of Europe and subject it to the rule of Nazism, an aim he almost fully accomplished.

The European Jews on the other hand were not to be conquered or ruled, but simply to be wiped out. This mass execution began with the "Barbarossa-Invasion" against Russia. Special detachments of SS and SD rounded up unarmed and helpless Jews, driving them into ditches ruled by firing squads, locking them into gas chambers and ghettos, killing millions of men, women and children with German meticulousness and precision . . . . Around forty per cent of the Jewish population were murdered. This took place with the substantial help of Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian Hiwis (auxiliary troops of the SS) who were often known to be more atrocious and gruesome than the SS themselves.

This organised mass extermination began in July 1941. The mass executions by the SD and other special detachments didn't remain concealed; the Headquarters for deciphering war messages in London Bletchley Park managed to crack SS-codes on the 18th of July 1941, thus being exactly informed about the systematic decimation of Jewish inhabitants under the German occupation from then on. Further gruesome details about the genocide gradually became known by messengers or refugees that had managed to escape the ghettos and concentration camps ...

I, the undersigned Artur Brauner, lost 49 relatives from both sides of my family. In the name of these relatives and friends and the millions of other victims that were murdered, I want to appeal to the Royal Family, the British government and the British people, to open their archives dating from 1941-45 and make them fully accessible to the public. It is high time that the British nation and the rest of mankind were informed about the accessories that are to be held responsible for keeping this genocide secret.

Did the Royal Family know what was happening? Had they been informed? If so, how did the Queen react to this horrific revelation?

Thousands of Jewish inhabitants from White Russia were executed. Among them might have been relatives of Chagall or Oistrach . . . .

The American military have denied the victims of this persecution any form of humanitarian help. Which role did the British military play in the matter? After all, mutual chief commandos existed!

Hundreds of thousands were shot in the back of the neck. The lust for murder was effusive. Hitler and his followers activated the lowest instincts to keep the murder machinery running, forcing it onto human beings who were absolutely defenceless.

Meanwhile proof has been delivered, that Prime Minister Winston Churchill was informed about the genocide. Why he stood by without interfering or informing the public while the massacre took place must be clarified in the name of humanity.

Deportation from the Warsaw Ghetto to concentration camps in Treblinka, Ausschwitz and Maidanek. Members of the Golda Meir family? Ben Gurion? My own?

The radius of American and British bombers would have enabled them to bomb railway lines leading from the ghettos of Warsaw, Lodz and other cities to Treblinka, Maidanek or Ausschwitz, thus putting an end to, or at least reducing the mass murder. Who carries the responsibility for this "standstill agreement"? How many of my relatives died in the gas chambers because of it?

Within a short period of time over half a million inhabitants of the Warsaw ghetto lost their lives due to epidemics or by starving and freezing to death. The 60,000 that survived finally tried to fight down the Nazi murderers with the aim of not dying without having fought back, even though the chances of success were negligible. The "death march" after the uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto.

Today it is seen as a fact, that Churchill informed the American President Roosevelt about concentration camps, ghettos and the mass executions of the Jewish population in eastern Europe in order to consult him. The contents of these consultations should be made accessible to the public throughout the world.

Liquidation of a "Shtetel". Craftsmen that revived the "Shtetel" were murdered just as milkmen, tailors or butchers. The "Fiddler on the Roof" only has the dead to play to.

The concentration camp in Auschwitz wasn't bombed once, even though a thousand tons of bombs were dropped 8 kilometres away in numerous air raids. The targets of these attacks were however mostly refineries.

The prisoners prayed to God — the same God the allies believed in — that they might be bombarded, as it was their only hope to escape sure death. But no bombardments took place. Who gave the orders and why? Definitely not to allow the German "Reichsbank" to intensify their transactions of selling the wedding rings and gold extracted from the teeth of the dead victims to Switzerland.

The culture and human existence of the biblical folk that brought forth Moses, David, Salomon, the Prophets, Mother Mary, Jesus, the Twelve Apostles, philosophers such as Spinoza, Majmonides, Mendelssohn, composers and virtuosos such as Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Bizet, Schönberg, Kalman, Gershwin, Rubinstein, Olstrach, Menuhin, Bernstein, Halfez, statesmen such as Disraeli, Ben Gurion, Golda Meir, Dajan, Rathenau, Nobel Prize winners such as Einstein, great thinkers such as Marx and Freud, artists such as Chagall and Modigliani, writers such a Feuchtwanger, Heine, Kafka, Celan, Roth, Janusz Korczak, wonderful humanists and many others, were systematically destroyed. A huge prison stretching across millions of kilometres in Europe — from the Kaukasus up to Norway, from Stalingrad to Saloniki — enclosed the Jewish people and ensured that these branded victims were helplessly left at the disposal of bloodhounds and executioners.

The allies passively watched on, while the most extensive genocide in the history of mankind took place on their doorstep. Stone hearted, egoistic, intolerant and without a spark of humane compassion! Even though the Christian belief has taken over the Old Testament and Bible from the Jewish people it ignored the commandments of humanity and charity in these infernal times! This irresponsible passivity allowed Hitler's gang of executioners to systematically exterminate half the population of a community as planned, whose belief in a God that they originated from, was taken over by the rest of the world.

Artur Brauner
President of the
B'NAI B'RITH Lodge
Janusz Korczak Berlin

[illegible] امين الاصل

هكذا من الأصل

US state puts guilt back in divorce

By Tunku Varadarajan
in New York

LOUISIANA'S legislators have voted to make theirs the most difficult state in America in which to get divorced, passing a Bill to introduce the concept of a "covenant marriage" tied to compulsory premarital counselling.

The Bill, which awaits the approval of the state Governor, was approved by a 91-8 majority in the state House of Representatives, and by 28-9 in the Senate.

The prospective law provides for a revolutionary two-tier marriage system, allowing couples to choose between what might be described as "regular" or "high-octane" unions.

The first is the form that exists already, which allows couples to obtain the sort of no-fault divorce prevalent in most of the Western world. The second, covenant marriage, is designed to discourage easy divorce. The Bill's proponents, alarmed by America's soaring rate of marital breakdown, have assembled a package that is part roadblock and part sermon. If a couple opt to marry under covenant, they will forfeit the right to a no-fault divorce.

To undo a covenant marriage, a spouse would have to prove physical or sexual abuse, abandonment for a year, adultery, or "habitual intemperance, excesses, cruel treatment or outrages".

Although counselling will be obligatory, there is no provision for "passing" or "failing". Couples will make their own decision, based on an understanding of the implications.

Protesters dispersed by police in Beijing

From Jonathan Mirsky in Hong Kong

BEIJING police yesterday drove more than 200 angry protesters from the walls of the leaders' compound in the Forbidden City, ending the first mass protest in China's capital since the Tiananmen crackdown in June 1989.

The Zhongnanhai, as the compound is known, is a haven of gardens, trees and ornamental ponds where Mao once lived, a few minutes from Tiananmen Square in the heart of Peking. It is the most politically sensitive place in the country in the run-up to the transfer of Hong Kong's sovereignty on July 1.

Yesterday's protest, by middle-aged and elderly Peking residents who tried to force their way into the Zhongnanhai, arose from a housing dispute. All were employees of the Guanghua Wood Materials Factory and claimed that the factory had promised them new flats — to replace other accommodation which they had left voluntarily three years ago — but had instead sold the flats to private buyers.

The protesters were surrounded by police before being frog-marched onto a bus. Some managed to leave the scene before being detained. They protested that they had committed no crime.

At the heart of the dispute is the Ministry of State Security which is involved with the developer who built the new flats. The ministry is widely suspected of corruption and is reported by security officials here to be attempting to penetrate the Department of Customs and Excise in order that Chinese hi-tech equipment and strategic chemicals can be exported without inspection through Hong Kong to countries like Iran.

There is a Chinese tradition of petitioning for justice outside the residences of senior officials. At the beginning of the Tiananmen demonstrations, some students knelt and bowed on the steps of the Great Hall of the People, which flanks one side of Tiananmen Square, and demanded that officials come out and accept a petition calling for freedom of the press and speech and an end to corruption.

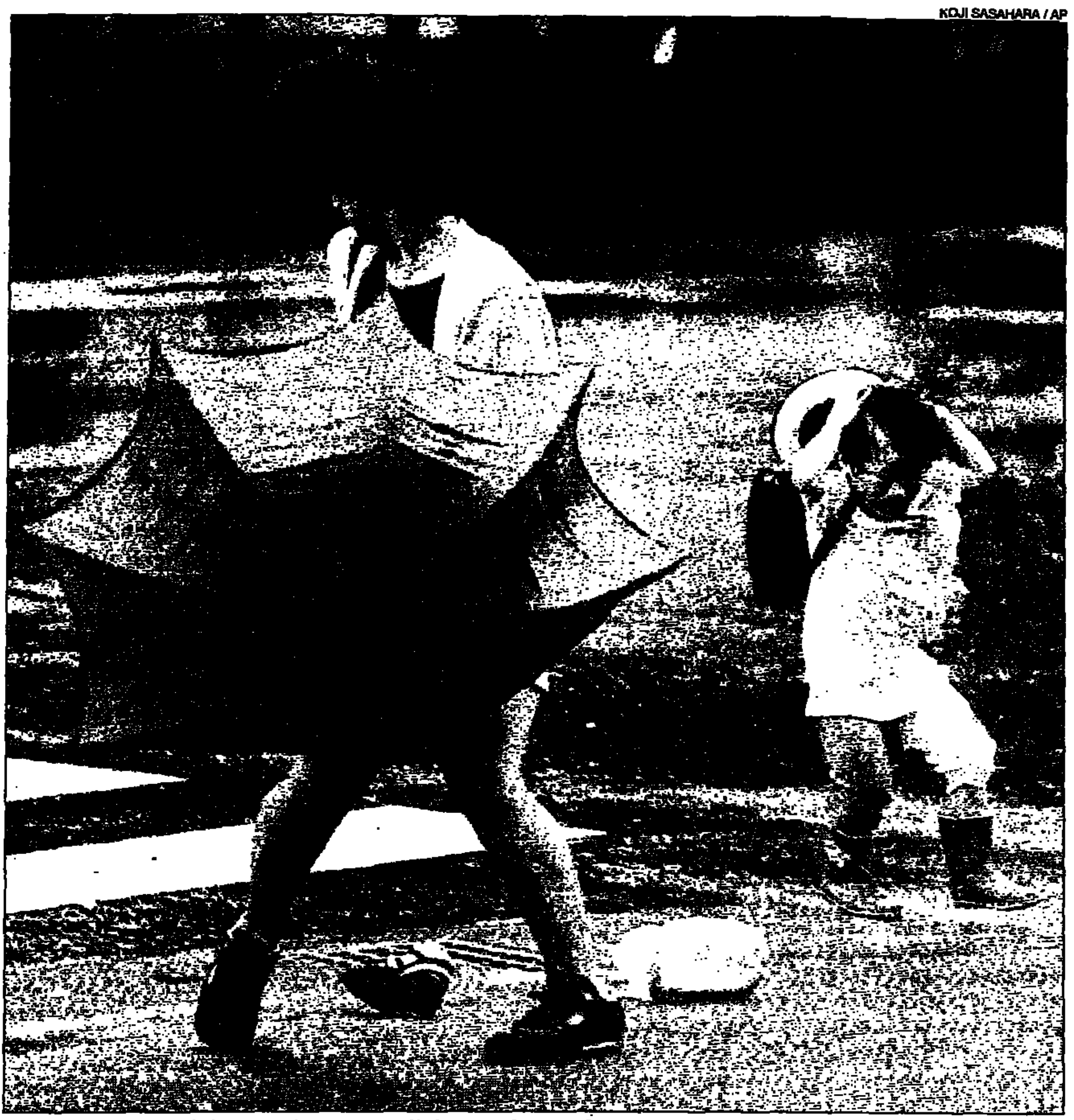
Other students pressed up against the yellow gates of the Zhongnanhai, shouting similar demands, until police and army guards beat them back.

Such demonstrations soon escalated into the mass protests in Tiananmen Square and almost 100 other cities, with protesters calling on Deng Xiaoping and other leaders to step down and demanding an end to Communist rule.

In Peking last night, Professor Ding Zilin of the People's University, whose son was shot dead in Tiananmen, said that in the run-up to the Hong Kong handover, the police team that keeps her under surveillance had been strengthened and that it was almost impossible for her family to leave the campus.

Professor Ding has drawn up a list of almost 100 students who were killed and is demanding that the Government say how many others died.

KOJI SASAHARA / AP



A mother and child struggle to cross a Tokyo road as Typhoon Opal struck central Japan yesterday with winds of almost 70mph. A fisherman, 60, drowned, schools closed and 100 domestic flights were cancelled

Americans near deal to reduce nicotine

From Tom Rhodes
in Washington

THE American tobacco industry, nearing an agreement expected to cost companies more than $350 billion (£212 billion), has agreed that the US Government can insist on the gradual removal of nicotine from cigarettes.

After long negotiations in Washington, talks between state attorneys-general, industry lawyers and others appeared to be reaching some conclusion last night as negotiators tried to resolve the final points of a comprehensive settlement to dozens of anti-tobacco legal actions.

The deal will govern regulations for the industry for the next quarter century. Negotiators were said to have reached an agreement on concepts, but were still hammering out the specific details of the agreement, which was unlikely to be announced before the close of Wall Street last night to avoid further turmoil in the financial markets.

The apparent acceptance by tobacco company lawyers that the Food and Drug Administration could force the removal of nicotine was seen as a key change. The proposal calls for a gradual reduction in nicotine levels but no complete ban until 2009, allowing companies time to find a non-addictive alternative.

Among the final hurdles being cleared yesterday was the extent of the apology to be made by the industry.

New claim of Pol Pot capture

From James Pringle
in Phnom Penh

POL POT, the elusive leader of the Khmer Rouge, has been captured, a rebel group of the secretive guerrillas who brought the killing fields to Cambodia claimed last night in a broadcast from its clandestine radio station. Earlier in the day, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the First Co-Prime Minister in the Government, said that dissident Khmer Rouge guerrillas who had broken with Pol Pot had discovered his hiding place and were moving in to try to take him alive.

Pol Pot was said to have only 15 men with him in the forests of northern Cambodia near the Thai frontier.

Earlier in the week, Khmer Rouge radio had said that Pol Pot had surrendered. However, Prince Ranariddh said yesterday that the man who ruled the country from 1975 to early 1979, when a million Cambodians died in the killing fields, had placed conditions on his surrender which had proved unacceptable. There was no independent confirmation of the latest surrender reports, or even that Pol Pot was alive.

Cambodia's Second Co-Prime Minister, Hun Sen, a rival of Prince Renariddh, said that it was all "a political game". Some of Hun Sen's supporters said that they did not expect to see Pol Pot taken alive.

Prince Ranariddh added that Khmer Rouge forces who turned against Pol Pot and wanted to negotiate with the Government had found his forest hideout and were preparing a final assault. He said the pursuit was continuing cautiously because the rebels wanted to take Pol Pot alive.

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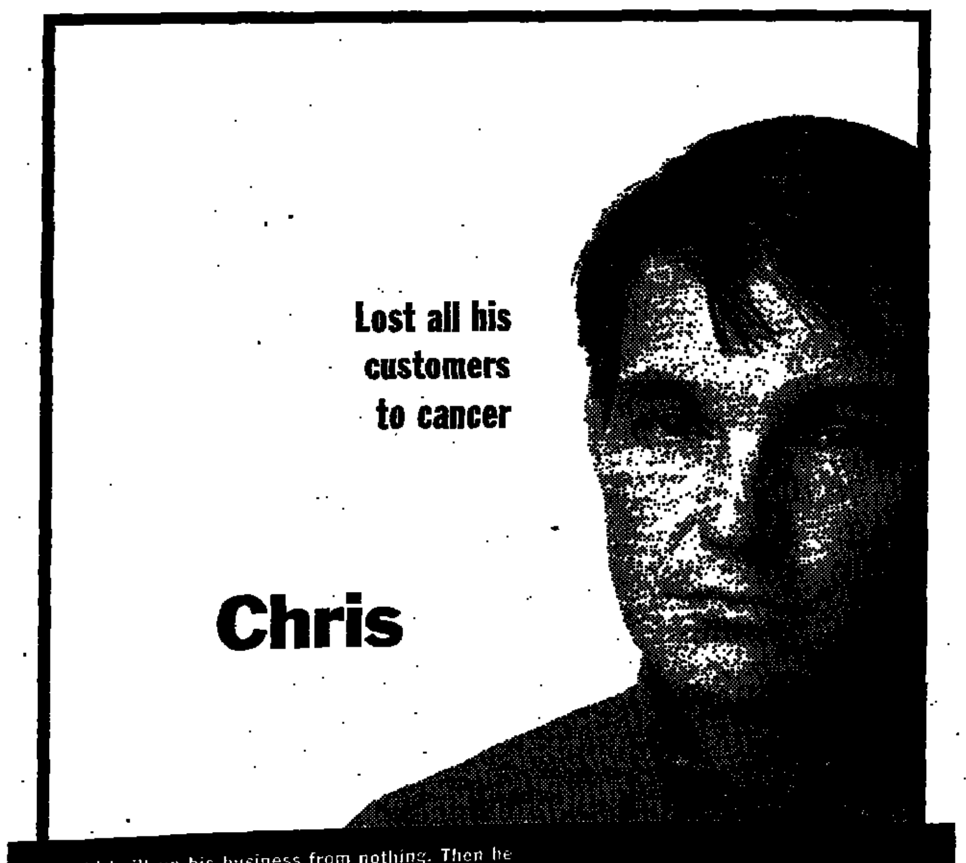
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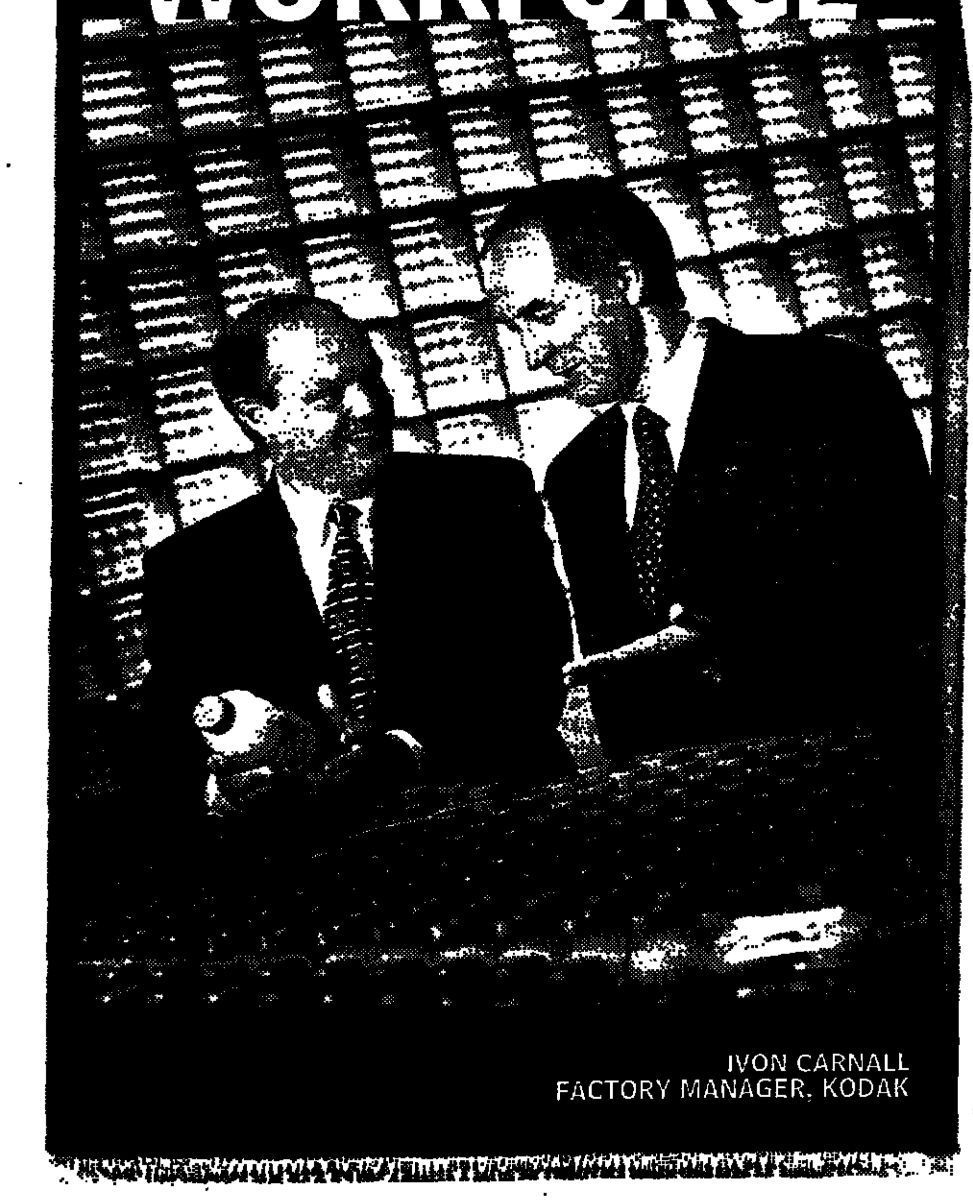

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Trade figures take gloss off Clinton deal with Japan

From Bronwen Maddox
in Denver

UNITED STATES

TENSION between the United States and Japan over trade will be a central theme in today's economic talks, one of the most critical sessions of the Denver summit of the world's leading industrial nations, despite President Clinton's last-minute success in winning concessions on opening up Japanese markets.

Mr Clinton, confronted on the eve of the summit with worsening US trade figures, is wrestling with his foreign counterparts to lower barriers to American goods, and at the same time battling with protectionist factions in Congress who are pressing him to throw up new blocks on imports.

The President has made the promotion of trade one of the main themes of his second term. In his first, he pushed through the North American Free Trade Agreement (Nafta) with Mexico and Canada, and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, a dismantling of international trade barriers. These may come to be seen as his biggest achievements.

But the Denver tension shows the perils of the White House strategy. Mr Clinton has argued that it is damaging for America to run trade deficits — exports worth less than imports. Many economists dispute this, arguing that it can be helpful. But as a result, when trade figures worsen, Mr Clinton is forced on to the defensive in the battle to persuade Congress that trade liberalisation is desirable. Figures on Wednesday disclosed that America's overall foreign trade deficit rose sharply in April to $8.4 billion (£5.1 billion) in April from $7.8 billion in March.

> ‘Who could argue that our effort to open markets with trade accords is ill advised?’

The US deficit with Japan in April was $4.8 billion, the highest monthly total since October, and the highest deficit with any country, although China was not far behind.

Tensions with Japan over trade eased in 1995 and early 1996 but have returned in recent months with the Japanese recovery, which has been fuelled by the yen's weakness. Exports have soared, infuriating Tokyo's trading partners, while Japanese consumers have proved loath to change cautious spending habits.

"I wish they weren't so high," President Clinton said in Denver when told of the figures. But Charlene Barshefsky, the US Trade Representative, said that the release of the figures helped to clinch a new pact with Japan to open telecommunications, medical equipment and other key markets to foreign competition.

Under the deal, thrashed out at 4am on Thursday and agreed by both leaders within hours of arrival, the United States will be allowed to monitor Japanese efforts to open up and deregulate its economy. However, Japanese officials in Denver bridled at the suggestion that they would accept the offer of US advice.

America did not give way to Japan's demand for reciprocal access. Mr Clinton argued that US markets were already the most open in the world, and that in any case it was the Japanese who were enjoying a trade surplus.

The deal will help Mr Clinton's battle this summer in Congress to defend his commitment to free trade. Democrats with links to trade unions, who are worried about loss of jobs, and protectionist Republicans have united to challenge him on this summer's key trade debates: whether Nafta should be extended, and whether trading relations with China should be renewed.

Mr Clinton directed much of his arrival speech in Denver to his Washington opponents, attacking those who presented a "false choice between protectionism, on the one hand, and unlimited free trade opening our markets with nothing in return on the other".

He added: "We have the lowest unemployment rate in 24 years. Who could seriously argue that our effort to open markets with 200 trade agreements — the largest number in any period in American history — is ill advised?" In particular, he said, "in the 20 areas where we have specific trade agreements with Japan, American exports have increased over 85 per cent in the last four years." The President added: "Protectionism is simply not an option because globalisation is irreversible."

GARY HERSHORN / REUTER

Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Japanese Prime Minister, in Denver with his wife, Kumiko, for the summit of the leading industrialised nations

US calls on partners to back free-market crusade in Africa

From Michael Binyon
in Denver

AID

PRESIDENT CLINTON has called on his summit partners to back a new American initiative to help Africa to overcome its economic and political difficulties by promoting trade and investment.

His proposals, though welcomed by Canada and several other world leaders, are likely to stir considerable resentment in France, however, where the Government is still smarting at its comprehensive humiliation over Zaire. The French are intensely suspicious of any Anglo-American initiatives in Africa that might appear to undermine their influence in the region.

Launching a more activist foreign policy, a traditional interest for second-term presidents, Mr Clinton wants to extend free-market principles to Africa, which he sees as the last continent where privatisation, competition and free trade have yet to bring prosperity.

The House of Representatives is currently considering legislation with the hopeful name The Africa Growth and Opportunity Act. It would create investment funds for Africa and develop a free-trade agreement with the region. The State Department says the aim is to encourage African leaders to make political and economic reforms and to use trade, rather than aid, to reduce African debt and poverty.

Aid organisations and several Western allies are sceptical. They see the initiative as opportunistic, building on American backing for Laurent Kabila in Zaire, renamed Congo, and other English-speaking African leaders who have embraced market economics. Washington is also eager to cut its aid budget.

From 1990 to 1995 the US spent $13.8 billion trying to help sub-Saharan Africa, mostly with food aid, but only $517 million went toward developing the private sector.

"Sub-Saharan Africa is still a largely untapped market of 600-700 million people," Lawrence Summers, deputy Treasury Secretary, told Congress in April.

Christian Aid doubted whether cutting trade tariffs would make much difference, and said the pressing problem for the continent was debt relief. It said bad and unpayable debts by the highly indebted countries should be cancelled by 2000.

Mr Clinton is also calling for support from the European states in other areas where he wants to demonstrate American leadership, including closer co-operation on the perennial issues of drugs, terrorism and money laundering.

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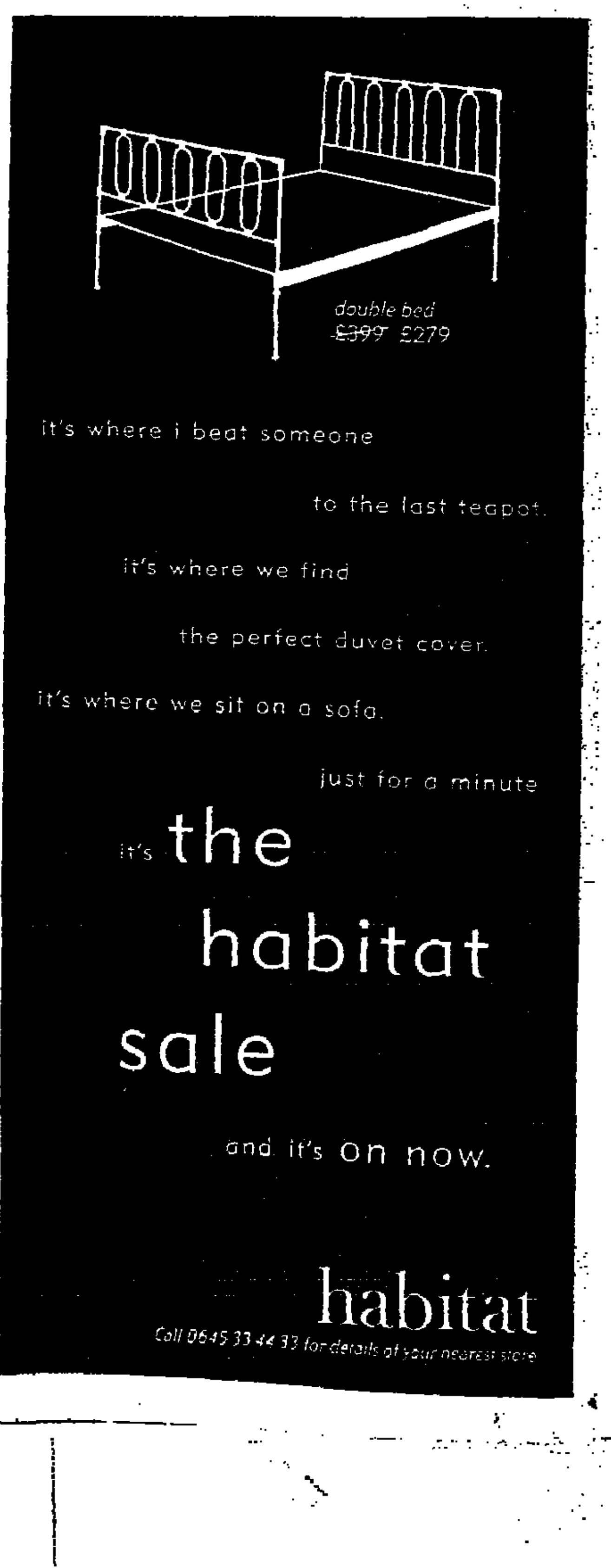

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Blair wants world to warn China on Hong Kong rights

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR
IN DENVER

BRITAIN

TONY BLAIR last night called on world leaders to send a clear message to China that the rights of the people of Hong Kong must be protected after the handover to Beijing at the end of the month.

The Prime Minister has made the future of Hong Kong one of the priorities at his first appearance on the global stage. After arriving in Denver last night for the Summit of the Eight, Mr Blair went straight into separate meetings with Jean Chrétien, the Canadian Prime Minister, and Ryutaro Hashimoto, his Japanese counterpart, in which he urged both to support the demands of Britain on China to respect the traditions and rights of the people of Hong Kong. He will raise the issue again in his first speech to the summit today. Mr Blair is to use the summit to push forward the agenda on job creation which he and President Clinton put at the heart of a new Anglo-American partnership when they met three weeks ago.

In his speech today, Mr Blair will say that while effective regulation can provide a framework for employee rights and security, excessive protection could exclude from getting jobs young people, those returning from a break and the long-term unemployed. He will say: "We should all ask ourselves whether our regulations help or hinder those out of work."

Mr Blair will urge that a full action programme on jobs be agreed by next year's "G8" summit in Birmingham. He will tell fellow leaders that the conference of finance and social affairs ministers in Britain in January must start coming up with conclusions.

As he flew to Denver, Mr Blair's officials said that he had a list of priorities for the summit. These were winning support for Britain's job creation ideas, improved supervision of international markets to combat financial fraud, a demand for a clear lead from the summit for action on environmental issues such as climate change, forests and the oceans, and support for the British agenda on human rights, democracy and good government and new measures to tackle corruption and bribery.

At his two meetings with President Clinton today, Mr Blair will discuss jobs and Northern Ireland.

It will not all be serious negotiation at the summit. The Prime Minister and his wife, Cherie, are to attend a cowboy party in the old cattle stockyards in Denver tonight, where the leaders are expected to don cowboy dress.

☐ **Clinton warning:** Mr Clinton used his arrival in Denver to call for maintaining "normal trade relations with China", adding that there was no reason to curb trade with a country "just because we disagree with it" (Bronwen Maddox writes).

He added: "We should push our ideas forward, but we should not imperil 170,000 American jobs today and a big chunk of America's future — not just our economic future, but our ability to work with the largest country in the world. We don't do it to other countries with which we disagree; we should not do it with China."

His remarks will inflame the controversy in Congress over whether to renew China's "most favoured nation" status, which grants it the same trading rights as most of the United States's trading partners. The vote has been a formality in previous years.

THE DENVER WISH LIST

UNITED STATES
Steps to reduce trade deficit with Japan (has got it)

CLINTON

UNITED KINGDOM
Help monitoring Hong Kong (Will probably get it)

BLAIR

GERMANY
Endorsement of its view of EMU will not get it)

KOHL

FRANCE
Job creation programmes (may get it)

CHIRAC

ITALY
Wants support for its EMU entry (will probably not get it)

PRODI

CANADA
Environmental clean up commitments (will probably get it)

CHRETIEN

JAPAN
New ideas on paying for an ageing population (will get it)

HASHIMOTO

RUSSIA
More financial help (will probably get it)

YELTSIN

TIMOTHY CLARY / EPA

President Yeltsin arrives in Denver, the city made rich by the Cold War. It is the Russian leader's first 'G8' meeting

Security tight in mile-high fortress

DENVER NOTEBOOK

The signs in Russian and other languages draped along the central pedestrian shopping street and at the gleaming new tram stops say "Welcome". The Russian leader is the main curiosity for this Rocky Mountain fortress. For Boris Yeltsin is attending his first full "Summit of Eight" in the city that grew rich on the Cold War.

Denver made the missiles and hi-tech weapons systems that were targeted at Moscow. The end of the Cold War swept all that away. Mr Yeltsin is here, with other leaders, to see how jobs can be created from the fruits of peace.

There is still a fortress feeling about this city nestling a mile high beneath the jagged skyline of the snow-covered mountains. The summit has swept into town barely a week after the Timothy McVeigh verdict, leaving security forces little time to rest. Roads have been closed, a steel fence rings the Central Library where the G8 leaders are meeting, and secret servicemen are directing anyone away from anywhere if a leader might appear.

Army officials arrived last month to train 1,000 local police how to respond to attack, with classes in identifying chemical and biological agents and how to decontaminate and transport victims. A battalion of troops is on standby. Security costs are put at $2 million (£1.2 million).

It might all seem a bit far-fetched, as unfamiliar foreign ministers and anonymous Brussels officials are installed in hotels spruced up with designer-made leather sofas and Navajo rugs to give them an authentic Western feel. But since the Oklahoma bombing, America has taken security very seriously.

The FBI has been keeping an eye on Denver for some time, nervous that the McVeigh trial might stir far-right militias into action. One group is reported to have begun recruiting among security guards at a former nuclear weapons plant in the suburbs, where 14 tonnes of plutonium is stored.

World leaders, arriving from the multi-million-dollar new airport 25 miles out on the plains, will barely see Denver, a city that is booming again — thanks to airlines, digital communications and hi technology — and has gone green. As noxious miasmas settled over the once rarefied air, it declared war on the car. The city has built a tram system that glides through the central area. Free buses shuttle up and down car-free shopping streets.

President Clinton has rewarded Denver with the summit — and invaluable publicity — because Colorado did more than any state except Arizona to boost export earnings (up 115 per cent) and because Governor Roy Romer is a valuable political ally.

The President has also let American sponsors do most of the city's promotion, with almost all the expensive arrangements and press facilities provided as part of corporate advertising. As a result, the summit is costing only $20 million — less than half last year's more lavish affair at Lyons ($48m).

Businesses estimate that they will make $13.8 million in earnings from the 8,000 delegates and journalists.

MICHAEL BINYON

Kohl sets out his vision for Europe

BY MICHAEL BINYON

GERMANY

EUROPE needs a common currency as a necessary and logical completion of the single market, Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, said yesterday.

"We also need it to strengthen Europe's ability to meet global challenges — and, not least, to give Europe appropriate weight in the international monetary system," he said.

Addressing the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations hours before arriving here for the start of the Denver summit, Herr Kohl reiterated his insistence that there must be no fudging of the Maastricht criteria or weakening of the euro's strength. The common currency must be stable, he said. "The stability pact and the time-frame of the Maastricht treaty are not negotiable ... The decision on which countries will qualify for monetary union will then follow in the spring of 1998."

Herr Kohl told his American audience that economic and monetary union was also, essentially, a political project. "It binds the European Union more closely in a common destiny. The process of European unification thus gains greater dynamism. EU enlargement will strengthen this dynamism even further."

The Chancellor's remarks displayed his evident satisfaction that the new French Socialist Government was unable to make any significant modification to the EMU timetable and criteria at the Amsterdam summit.

He also underlined his insistence on a common European foreign and security policy. "My goal is that one day Europe will be able to speak with one voice and realise its interests through common foreign policies ... The construction of the European house — with a permanent right of abode for our American friends — is the key for Europe's future success."

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Swiss bank account links Karadzic to $60m weapons deal

FROM TOM WALKER IN SARAJEVO

SWISS and Italian detectives have uncovered a bank account they claim was used by Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb warlord, in an attempt to smuggle some of the world's most deadly military hardware into his breakaway republic.

There is growing evidence to show that in the spring of 1995, as the Bosnian war turned against the Serbs, Dr Karadzic made a final desperate gamble to tip the military balance in his favour. He took a loan of $60 million (£36.5 million) from a Liberian cover company, secured against the Bosnian Serbs' one oil refinery at Brod, south of the Sava river. Investigators say the money was intended to buy Russian-made Smerch rockets and "Vacuum" fuel-air bombs that would have overwhelmed Bosnian Muslims.

"The enemy is getting new technology, but we are in the process of getting a sophisticated weapon," Dr Karadzic told Bosnian Serb leaders in March 1995. Investigators are trying to fathom an intricate web of evidence that links the Brod refinery contract to Serb, Russian and Italian arms dealers, through a Liechtenstein-based financial services company, and on to Dr Karadzic's account — No 3093/230/-102 — with Banco de Gottardo in Lugano, Switzerland.

Whether the hardware reached Republika Srpska is doubtful, given that two arms dealers known to work for the Serbs were killed in Moscow in 1995.

Of more immediate importance to the near-bankrupt Republika Srpska is the ownership of its single oil refinery. Management sources in Brod have admitted their uncertainty to a local newspaper, *Alternativa*. "Dr Karadzic called us a few times. He told us that we should agree to the contract, that it was in the highest interest of Republika Srpska," the paper quotes one source. "It was to buy the best weapons for the war. But now nobody knows who owns us."

Facts, a Zurich-based weekly, has been informed by Swiss Justice Ministry investigators in Berne that Dr Karadzic was to receive a 1 per cent payoff from the arms deal valued at £214,000. The Swiss team is working with investigators in Torre Annunziata, near Naples, who are prosecuting two arms dealers, an Italian named Lorenzo Mazzega and the Liberian representative who signed the Brod refinery contract with the Serbs, Nicholas Alexander Oman. The Italian inquiry comes after raids on houses around Torre Annunziata.

Journalists with *Alternativa* said they found the contract among a pile of papers in a former courthouse in Sokolac, a border village which the Bosnian Serbs are trying to transform into "the new Sarajevo". While Mr Oman signed the contract on behalf of a Liberian company called Orbal Marketing Services, the Serbs' signatory was Branko Petric, who at the time was a local judge. Mr Petric is now the Republika Srpska's Minister of Justice in Pale. Last night, he refused to talk about the contract. The investigation promises to yield further evidence against Dr Karadzic, proving his pivotal role in the war. Carl Bildt, the outgoing High Representative for Bosnia, has said that the pressure to arrest the most wanted suspected war criminal for the tribunal in The Hague is growing.

Karadzic: plan to buy deadly hardware

Fuel-air bomb packs deadly firepower

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE weapons shopping list drawn up by Radovan Karadzic would have added enormous firepower to the Bosnian Serb inventory.

The Smerch weapon is a Soviet-made ground-to-ground rocket with a range of more than 40 miles which has to be launched from an eight-wheeled transporter. The solid fuel-propelled system can be fired in salvoes of 14 rockets, each with a 660 lb explosive warhead.

The Smerch — Russian for tornado — is available on the arms market. North Korea and China have produced their own version of the Russian weapon.

Although Duncan Lennox, a weapons expert with the *Jane's* publications, was not aware of the "Vacuum" fuel-air bomb, the Russians do have their own fuel-air systems which are also readily available on the open market.

The fuel-air bomb was used to devastating affect by the Americans to clear minefields in the Gulf War in 1991. Normally dropped by aircraft, the bombs disperse fuel vapour which spreads slowly over the target area before being ignited by a spark set off via a timing mechanism. The combination of vapour and air creates a huge pressure wave.

Mr Lennox said the idea was to let the vapour settle inside target buildings or trenches before igniting. "You have to get the fuel-air ratio correct before igniting the vapour, and wind conditions can play a big part in getting it right." The fuel-air bomb could also be launched from ground-to-ground rockets, he said.

Child sex scandal pollutes wine town

FROM SUSAN BELL IN MÂCON

WITH new tales of horror emerging this week in France's child pornography scandal, the sleepy Burgundy town of Mâcon appears an unlikely setting for the organisation of the country's largest round-up of suspected paedophiles.

Suddenly this provincial town on the banks of the River Saône, better known for Beaujolais, has found itself at the centre of a huge investigation into a network supplying child pornography.

Jean-Louis Coste, the town's public prosecutor, and Christine Parguel, the local investigating magistrate, masterminded this week's series of dawn raids which resulted in the arrest of more than 600 suspects, of whom 208 men and one woman have been placed under formal investigation by the authorities.

During the operation, codenamed Ado 71 after the French word for teenager and the car registration number of the Mâcon region, police seized thousands of child pornography videos. One man in Toulon was found to be in possession of 620 videos. Seven rapes involving children, aged six to 14 and 29 cases of sexual abuse were also uncovered.

M Coste said yesterday that he had been shocked by the material seized by police. "The videos mostly involved boys aged 12, 13 and 14, although some children may be younger. One shows two boys of 12 and 14 with a dog," he said.

"It is too early to tell if there were any British citizens among those arrested. All I can say is that all of them have a domicile in France." Mâcon became the focus of the child pornography crackdown after police discovered 20 videos and paedophile magazines in the home of a teacher in the nearby town of Cluny in April last year. The material seized from the teacher's home enabled Mâcon investigators to launch their own inquiry which eventually led them to Platypus, a Paris-based video and publishing company, whose founder, Bernard Alapetite, is allegedly behind its distribution of child pornography throughout France. He is believed to have bought the original videos in Spain or Eastern Europe and made multiple copies which he sold for Fr800 (£83) each.

At his offices, police found a mailing list of more than 1,000 names which provided the target for this week's raids. Among those on the list were 31 teachers, the principal of a school in Besançon, a paediatrician, two directors of children's holiday camps and two priests.

M Alapetite, a convicted paedophile, was arrested on Tuesday at his flat in the wealthy resort of la Baule in Brittany and was charged on Thursday. The former engineer and former tennis champion had been released by police in January due to a lack of evidence after his arrest in November.

He faces a maximum of seven years in jail and a Fr700,000 fine if convicted. The case is not expected to come to trial for at least a year because of the scale of the investigation.

ROLLAND QUANDRANI / REUTER

Bernard Alapetite, accused of distributing child pornography, leaving court

European hub of paedophile networks

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

MOST of the pornographic video cassettes seized in the raids this week were produced and bought in Poland. This ties in with reports from Interpol and Unicef that Central and Eastern Europe are becoming the new focus of paedophile networks.

Polish authorities have been monitoring paedophile activity in the port of Szczecin and in other towns in western Poland. Germany's sex tourists are regarded as the most active in Europe — 400,000 Germans fly every year to the Third World for sex, according to Justice Ministry officials, who say at least 5,000 of them want sexual contact with children under 13.

Pornographic film-makers "borrow" children from orphanages or lure them away. Drugged, beaten or unaware of what is happening, these children are filmed for 24 hours. Provided they hold the child for only a short time and free him or her in a different part of town, such film-makers can go undercover before the police close in.

The Netherlands is a clearing house for paedophile networks. The biggest customers are in Germany and France, with an estimated 50,000 regular customers for child pornography in Germany alone.

Police watch seized videos for distinctive tattoos or furniture which could give clues to the film-maker. Customs officials watch for certain kinds of video cameras, but the business is unlikely to dry up: the demand is too strong.

Scale of depravity unnerves France

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS

FRANCE has watched with growing revulsion this week as a succession of child pornography scandals has swept away the illusion that sexual perversion is an Anglo-Saxon problem.

For a nation that thought it was at ease with its sexuality, the revelations have been dramatic and distressing. Priests, teachers and youth workers are among hundreds of men suspected of belonging to paedophile rings involved in rape, bestiality and pornography. The disclosures have undermined confidence in some of France's most trusted institutions.

Alain Honoré, the general secretary of the French Federation for Health and Social Work, said yesterday: "Our country was not ready for all this."

As France braces itself for the next revelation, there is a sense of deep trauma. The authorities know new measures are required to protect children, but have little idea what to do.

The education establishment is caught between wanting to take action to combat paedophilia and the fear that any such move will merely fuel the suspicion that now hangs over the teacher-pupil relationships.

The notion that France did not need to bother with such issues because the French had a healthier approach to sexuality was widespread and false, M Honoré said. "People speak about sex a lot, but words can compensate for something that is missing elsewhere."

M Honoré said the French guarded their privacy with a determination that made it difficult to uncover child abuse and child pornography. "In the US, for instance, you go to see a psychiatrist because you need help. In France, if you see a psychiatrist, it is because you are mad."

If affairs were now starting to come to light, it was because of publicity given to scandals in other countries, he said. "That opened people's eyes and they started to wonder whether that sort of thing might not be going on here."

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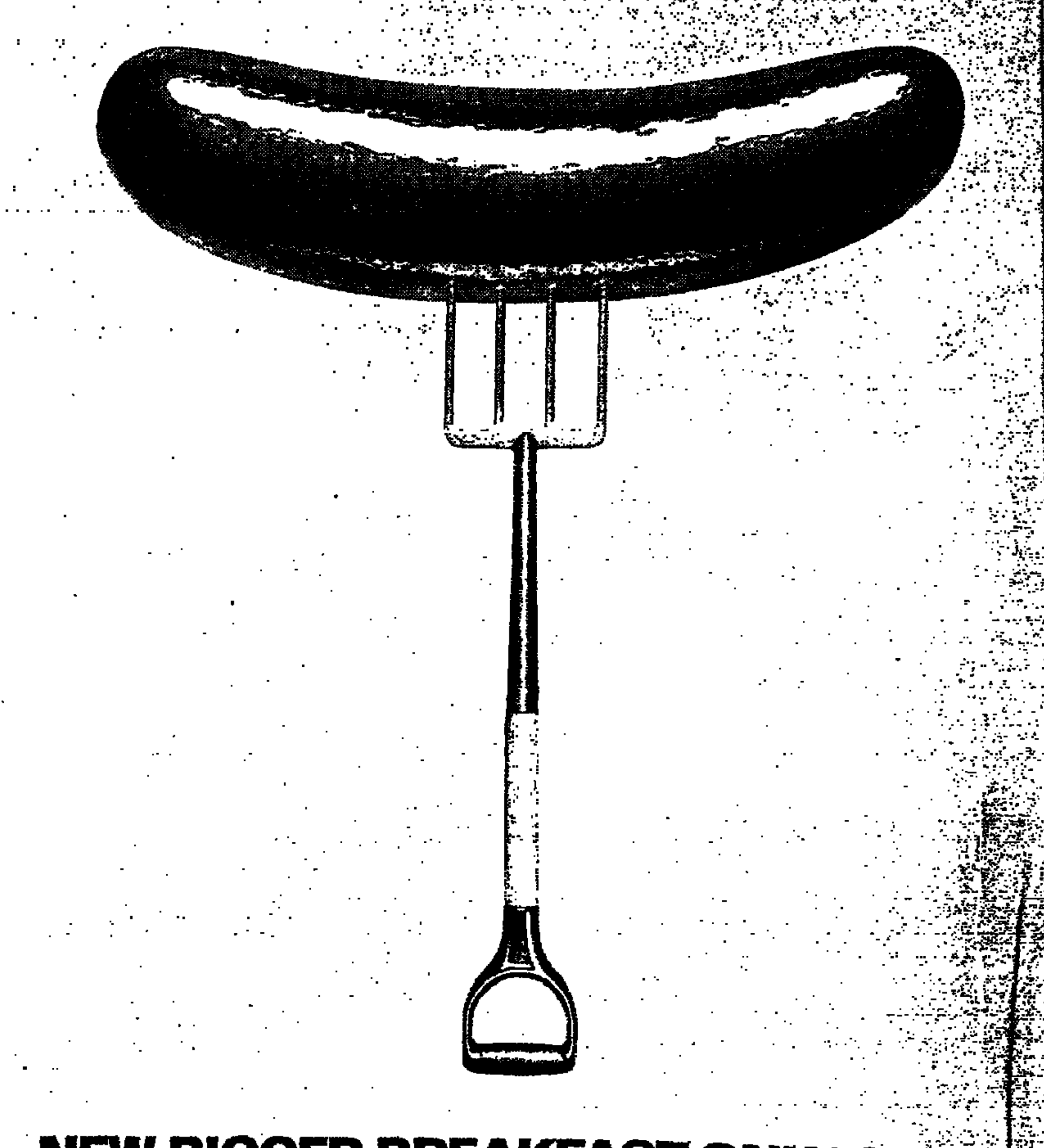

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ملاک: بین الملل

Abuse of Somalis by Italian peacekeeping force threatens to tarnish glowing record of top soldier

Modern hero under fire

ROME FILE
by RICHARD OWEN

ITALY'S current bout of angst over the behaviour of its Somalia troops four years ago is threatening to tarnish the reputation of a modern hero: General Bruno Loi, the tall and athletic paratrooper who led the Italian contingent in the multinational operation.

General Loi, 56, features as much in Italian women's magazines as in the news pages. In a country short of modern heroes, his imposing figure and air of command make him a natural role model. Few seem willing to believe that he knew about, much less condoned, the alleged torture of Somali civilians during "Operation Restore Hope".

The Government has set up a commission of inquiry after *Panorama* magazine published graphic photographs appearing to show troops from the general's crack Folgore ("Lightning") regiment attaching electrodes to male prisoners and sexually abusing Somali women. General Loi said he was "rabid with anger" over "these obscene photographs which prove nothing .. I always gave precise instructions to our troops not to act like an army of occupation." Italian paras, he said, were "fine boys, the finest in all Italy".

Nonetheless the general has resigned, — or "suspended himself" — together with General Carmine Fiore, who succeeded him in Somalia at the end of 1993. *La Stampa* described them as "military gentlemen of the old school", but feared the scandal would bring them down "because of a group of louts in uniform".

General Loi seems unwilling to concede that some of his "fine boys", bored in the heat of Africa, might have departed from his strict code and turned to "Ramboism". Born into a military family from Sardinia, he rises at six and runs for an hour.

"He was always a touch vain and arrogant," recalled one fellow officer this week. "Bruno knew he was the best." A lover of French wines — he studied at the Ecole de Guerre in Paris — the general is always dressed immaculately, with a scarf at his neck in a conscious imitation of Field Marshal Montgomery.

A committed Catholic, he displays a fine tenor voice at Mass on Sundays. "He even sings opera and military songs while shaving," said his wife, Raffaele.

Genral Loi's integrity and ability meant he stood out as a rising young officer during the 1982 multinational intervention in Lebanon. A natural choice to head the delicate Somali operation a decade later, he afterwards took charge of the military academy at Modena, from which he had graduated in 1964, with the job of "shaping the Italian army of the future".

That task has been overshadowed by the revelations about the conduct of Italian peacekeeping troops — hitherto thought of as easygoing and benign — in both Somalia and Mozambique.

General Loi's admirers hope he will come through unscathed. But, ominously, officials recall an episode last year when a Modena Academy cadet committed suicide. General Loi's observation that "there is no room in the army for young men struggling with their conscience" was seen as insensitive and brought calls in Parliament for an explanation.

Beniamino Andreatta, the Defence Minster, defended him. "But he might not do so again," one official said, "especially if he needs a scapegoat for Somalia." The general said that his Christian faith was keeping him buoyant — "rather as a parachute keeps you floating serenely down to the ground".

Monumental task poses problem

ITALY'S tangled relationship with Africa can be traced to the Mussolini era, when the Fascist dictator colonised Somalia, Libya and Ethiopia as part of plans to recreate the Roman Empire.

This week another colonial legacy returned to haunt Italy when experts advised Walter Veltroni, the left-wing Culture Minister and deputy Prime Minister, that the Axum obelisk in Rome was "too fragile" to be returned to Ethiopia. The obelisk was removed in several pieces from the holy city of Axum by Italian troops in the 1930s and re-erected in 1937 outside the Ministry of Colonial Africa near Rome's Circus Maximus.

The Ethiopians have repeatedly asked for it back, and last year Italy agreed — in principle. But technical experts said dismantling the monument would "risk irreparable fractures". To Ethiopian ears that sounds like an excuse. Addis Abbaba is demanding the right to send its own "experts" to Rome.

EPA

General Bruno Loi arriving in Mogadishu in 1992 at the head of an Italian peace force

Screen icons take to the streets

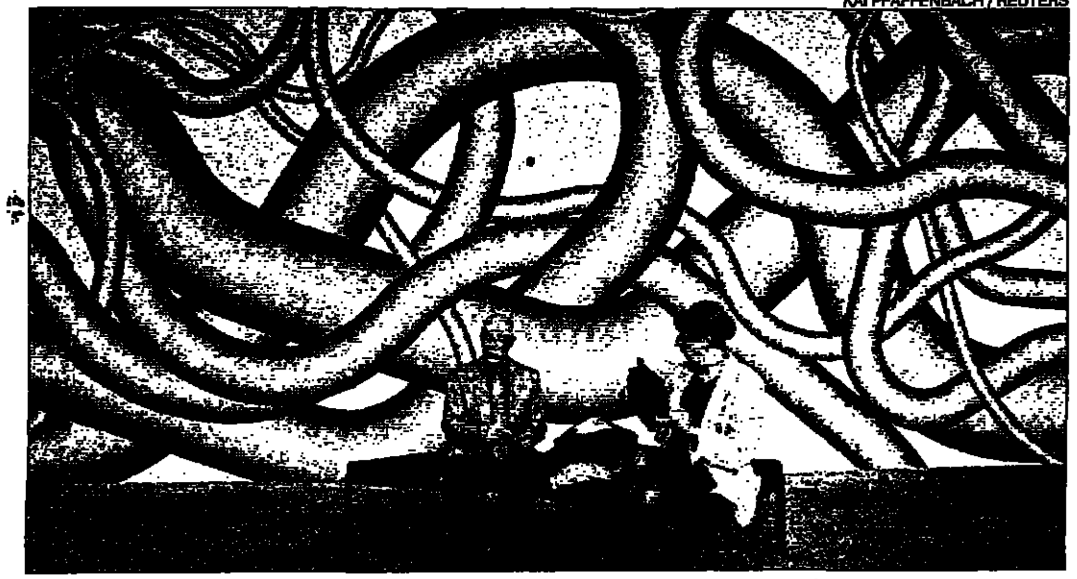
WHEN Rome needs big names to bestow on new piazzas and streets, it looks to the cinema. There is already a Piazza Federico Fellini and there are plans for streets to be named in honour of Marcello Mastroianni, the great star of Fellini's films, and Massimo Troisi, the star of *Il Postino*. Both actors died last year.

But Rome city council is running out of Italian stars and turning to world cinema — in particular the classics of silent comedy, including Charlie Chaplin and Laurel and Hardy.

There may eventually be a Via Rowan Atkinson, or Piazza Mr Bean. The British actor's (largely) silent comic creation has just been introduced to Italian television audiences and is an instant hit, with critics comparing Atkinson to the much loved Neapolitan master of rubbery features and deadpan comedy, Toto.

***La Repubblica* praised Mr Bean as "an irresistible cocktail of malevolence and ingenuity", and explained that the show had come late to Italy because Atkinson regularly takes his holidays in Sardinia and had not wanted to be recognised.**

KAI PFAFFENBACH / REUTERS



A couple resting in front of a painting titled *Model* by Austrian artist Peter Kogler, among the 700 works at "documenta X", the world's biggest art exhibition, in Kassel, Germany

González quits as party chief

Madrid: Felipe González, Spain's former Prime Minister, stunned his Spanish Socialist Workers' Party yesterday by declaring that he was standing down as its Secretary-General after 23 years (Giles Tremlett writes).

His announcement threw the party conference, which opened here yesterday, into chaos. A new leader will be chosen tomorrow.

No challenge had been expected to Señor González, 55, who was Prime Minister from 1982 to 1996. Speculation on a possible successor has turned to Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, who is supervising a reorganisation of the military alliance and will not be available before that is completed next month.

German company used Jews' gold

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

DEGUSSA, one of Germany's oldest and most respected companies, yesterday admitted it had probably been involved in melting down gold taken from Jewish concentration camp victims.

The statement by the Frankfurt-based precious metals company will stir further controversy over the wartime German and Swiss economies. Earlier this week, a BBC investigation accused Switzerland of melting gold teeth and other valuables seized from Jews by the Nazis. The gold's high mercury content was typical of pre-war tooth fillings.

Degussa, under international pressure to acknowledge its part in the affair, has now promised to open up its archives. An academic researcher from Cologne University will, it says, shed independent light on Degussa's wartime history.

The World Jewish Congress will also be given access to documents that catalogue the price and quantities of gold and silver received for smelting from the Nazi regime. These papers do not show the metals' origin — an omission that has always let Degussa claim a clean record.

However, a spokesman said yesterday that company papers in Berlin indicated gold and silver, apparently taken from Jews, were handled by Degussa. Other US military reports, compiled in 1945, were more specific, saying that gold was delivered by the SS and was mainly taken from Jews in the camps.

All valuables taken from camp victims were eventually sent to the monetary deposit section, and then on to Berlin. It seems likely, therefore, that the SS dealt directly with Degussa: the plunder was seen as part of the SS's independent wealth.

Degussa's decision to come clean follows frank company histories by Daimler and Volkswagen, both of which now admit using slave labourers. The Allianz insurance company has also recognised that it might have profited from unredeemed life insurance policies. It has recently set up a telephone line to answer queries from relatives of murdered Jews.

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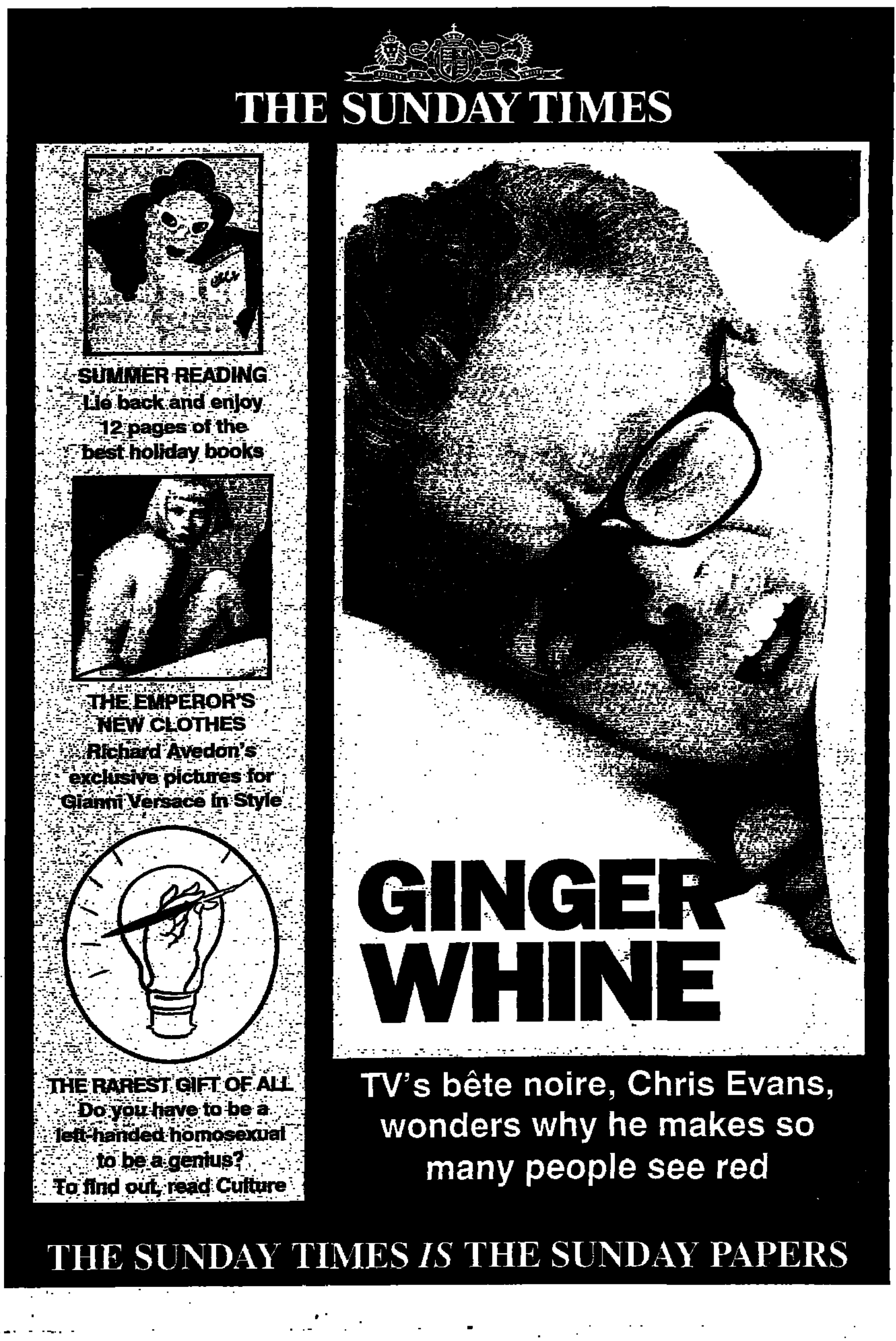

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■ VISUAL ART

The ancient craft of carving ship's figureheads is making a comeback

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From Gidon Kremer, one of the world's great violinists, playing tangos in London . . .

THE TIMES ARTS

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Women in every port

VISUAL ART: **Simon Tait** on the traditional works of art that every modern yacht-owner wants in his saloon

When Charles I's warship *The Sovereign of the Seas* was built in 1637, the figurehead — King Edgar trampling seven lesser monarchs underfoot — accounted for a tenth of the whole cost of the ship, such was the importance of what today we might consider an elaborate conceit.

The figurehead represented the heart and soul of the ship and its company. It might be a beautiful woman, a fearless warrior, a petrifying monster, or a crude representation of the likes of Horatio Nelson or Abraham Lincoln.

Figurehead carving was so important that Glasgow shipyards had entire workshops devoted to their creation. By the mid-19th century the Royal Navy considered them a pointless extravagance and banned them, although merchant ship owners continued to commission them.

Nearly a hundred years after the last figurehead was fitted to the prow of a ship, the craft is being revived — not by a gnarled old seafarer or a horny-handed woodcarver, but by the marketing head of a firm of accountants and a property company, who see the hand-carved figurehead as the latest must-have for the yacht-owning gentry.

By day 26-year-old Abigail Wright works for Moore Stephens in the City, but at night she is in her basement studio in Croydon, honing a burgeoning career as one of Britain's tiny band of figurehead carvers. Wright has been commissioned by Taylor Woodrow Property, and from today she and her figurehead will be on display in St Katharine's Dock by Tower Bridge, while she puts the finishing touches to it. It will be formally unveiled by the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Roger Cork, before adorning the nearby Taylor Woodrow building.

Wright says there is a demand for figureheads which has nothing to do with striking terror into maritime foes. "Yacht owners pay huge amounts to have a hand-carved figurehead adorning their saloons rather than their prows. Often they are portraits, but because of the carving techniques they are nothing like any other kind of portrait."

Her Taylor Woodrow piece, *Claire Louise*, is a closely observed portrait of Claire Dyer, a former naval officer and now an IT management consultant whom Wright chose as her model when Taylor Woodrow gave her carte blanche.

"When I saw Abby's first carving it looked, well, pretty dreadful," says Dyer, "but I've been able to watch it come to life and it's a very good portrait now. I'm thrilled."

Wright began carving as a child in Cornwall. Her teacher and mentor was Charles Moore, who made the figurehead of Britannia for the saloon of the *QE2* and had carved more than 100 by the time of his death last year.

Your own maritime masterpiece will cost you a five-figure sum. You and your chosen subject will be invited to meet Wright and her partner, graphic designer Gary Cooke, and Cooke will take photographs of every angle while Wright takes precise measurements. Costumes are decided on, and Cooke will draw a portrait to give an idea of how the figurehead will look.

Because the figurehead ostensibly has to adorn a vessel whose balance must be perfect, the wood must weigh as little as possible. Canadian yellow pine became popular in the 19th century, and more recently Malaysian jelutong, because it is light and soft to carve. The piece is not made from a single lump but from planks laminated together to avoid the risk of knots.

The carving will take about six months, and the finished portrait then gets several layers of undercoat, then gloss paint and gilding.

After its showing in Taylor-Woodrow's building, *Claire Louise* will be for sale, with a percentage going to the Lord Mayor's charity, the Cancer Research Campaign. But potential buyers will not be told that the model for the figurehead had to leave the Royal Navy because of an incurable affliction: Claire Dyer, daughter of a naval officer, discovered on board the assault ship *HMS Fearless* in the Mediterranean that she suffers from chronic sea-sickness.

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Abigail Wright carving a figurehead: your own would cost five figures, plus the yacht

EVENTS

I would like to wish George and Sara a magical future together and a special thanks to George for choosing the nine of clubs, regards Howard

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7.30pm - Concert at Blackheath Concert Hall Male Voice Choir, traditional music and dance, Cornwall Youth Orchestra.

Sunday June 29th

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هكذا من الاصل

■ OPINION

If the Millennium Dome is to succeed, its programming must be led by stage spectaculars . .

■ OPINION

. . . and run by such seasoned impresarios of gargantuan live events as Harvey Goldsmith

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ THEATRE

David Hare's new play, *Amy's View*, is a strong, rich dissection of modern England

■ THEATRE

. . . with a magnificent performance from Dame Judi Dench in the central role

Showbiz can save the dome of doom

WEEK IN THE ARTS

RICHARD MORRISON

There are many buildings in London that I detest for their soul-crushing ugliness. But I don't think I have ever hated a building that *doesn't yet exist* quite as much as I hate the proposed Millennium Dome. I always thought one of the cardinal rules of architecture was that form follows function. In this case, however, we appear to be commissioning a gargantuan PVC saucepan lid on an inaccessible peninsula in south London without the foggiest notion of what is to go inside it.

The whole planning of the Millennium Exhibition has been cloaked in farcical, self-important secrecy. You would think that Imagination — the hilariously named company paid to devise the exhibition "concept" — were designing a weapons system that was vital to the defence of the realm, not a glorified street party. Some of the shadowy consultants involved are said to dream of holograms and virtual reality trips. Others apparently envisage laser shows that will induce strong men to weep tears of joy. Basket-weavers are rumoured to be involved; and there are also exciting whispers of an exhibition about traffic. But nobody outside a charmed circle knows for sure.

On Thursday, Tony Blair approved a £580 million budget to buy this bag of half-baked whims. The next time that he witters on about "education education education", do remind him that £580 million would pay the salaries of 5,000 extra teachers for five years.

Well, all Prime Ministers are entitled to one mad grand project. Now Mr Blair, clearly underwhelmed by the plans he has seen so far, has called for "ideas merchants and creative forces" to step forward with brilliant new wheezes to make the dome of doom more exciting. Oh dear, I can feel a committee chaired by David Puttnam coming on.

Still, the blunt fact is that we are now lumbered with the millennium jamboree — so how do we make the best of it? I am no "ideas merchant", but it seems to me that all the faffing around of the past two years has been caused by a fundamental confusion about what the millennium is actually supposed to celebrate.

Obviously, it could be seen as a purely religious occasion: the 2,000th anniversary of Christ's birth. But in a multi-faith country with a strong secular bias, that is felt to be divisive. So we are left with the wishy-washy concept of a show "about Time". And this is where the contradictions begin.

The vaguely eggheaded Millennium Commissioners appear to want a kind of glorified Science Museum, with lots of worthy audio-visual thingies about the internal combustion engine. But Mr Blair has introduced the "Euan factor": he wants a show that will thrill his 13-year-old son. I haven't had the honour of meeting young Master Blair, but I do occasionally exchange breakfast grunts with my own 13-year-old boy, and I sense that we are talking here about ghastly, nausea-compelling white-knuckle rides, not the "strong emphasis on interactive education" favoured by the puritanical David Blunkett.

Then there are the commercial sponsors whose millions are desperately needed, and who will undoubtedly press for a dreary "trade fair" element. And let's not forget the cosy nostalgists, who want it all to be just like the dear old Festival of Britain; or the *mega*-nostalgists who somehow think that the glorious Victorian certainties of the 1851 Great Exhibition can be recreated; or the heritage fuddy-duddies, who want the dome to offer some sort of "Merrie Englande Through Ye Ages" experience.

Of course, the Greenwich show can and should accommodate many different sorts of attractions. But it must have an overriding message strong enough to attract millions. The very name "Millennium Exhibition" must send a thrill of expectation through young and old, rich and poor, northerner and southerner.

That won't happen unless the organisers play their only trump card: size. They won't attract families from Scotland or Somerset to an exhibition that is nothing but a conglomeration of small diversions — historical displays, interactive games — that could as easily be sampled in their local museums, amusement arcades, or even via their home computers.

What the new Dome must offer is communal entertainment on a vast scale. That is its only unique selling-point. And that means using the full extent of the Dome for huge, spectacular shows, not chopping it up into little segments. We are talking here about pop festivals that last for days and use ten stages; about Kasparov taking on a thousand chess opponents simultaneously; about mass-entertainment concepts such as *Gladiators* being beefed up for audiences of 100,000 at a time; about amazing sporting and showbiz events that couldn't happen anywhere else or at any other time.

And all this implies putting the event into the hands of spectacular, charismatic showmen — people with professional experience of producing gigantic live entertainments — not relying on style gurus and ministers without portfolios. Let's recruit Harvey Goldsmith and Cameron Mackintosh, and that brilliant military chappie who masterminds all those Royal Tournaments, and the country's leading fireworks genius, and the most inspired theme-park executives in the land — and tell them that this is their moment to do their patriotic bit for Britain. Between them that merry crew might, just might, conjure a triumph out of a project that currently has "amateurish bungle" written all over it.

Such populist thinking will, of course, send shudders through the ranks of the earnest do-gooders who see the Millennium Exhibition as a way of improving the simple minds of us ordinary folk. Let them be horrified. People, especially young people, won't come to the Millennium Dome to be patronised. They may just come if they can be sure of seeing a show that they will remember till their dying day. For £580 million, that is what they must get.

Bring on the superlatives

THEATRE

Amy's View
Lyttelton

It would be as easy to inscribe the plot and subplots of *Lear* on a cherry-stone as describe the concerns of David Hare's latest piece for the National.

It is about the value of theatre, cultural change and the decline of England. It is about mothers, daughters, the tension between in-laws. It is about loss, grief and the scouring of the soul. It is also . . . but it should already be clear that *Amy's View* is subtler than the Hare Trilogy, with its earnest thunderings about decaying institutions, and more complex than *Skylight*, Hare's most recent attempt to give private pain a social coating. Let's sum it up as a diffuse, incisive, funny, moving, difficult, fascinating play.

The first half mainly involves the conflict between Judi Dench's robust, assertive Esme and Eoin McCarthy's willowy, deceptively fragile Dominic. When we meet them in 1979, she is a well-known stage actress, he a young nobody who despises the theatre as "irrelevant" and, to compound the offence, has impregnated her daughter, Samantha Bond's warm, decent Amy.

Amy is the latest of a longish line of fragrant Hare women, and it is her faith in love, friendship and understanding that gives the play its title. But there seems little chance of her "view" prevailing in her own immediate family. Come 1985, and Dominic is her husband and a big media success, while Esme is on the slide. He makes TV programmes in which everything he regards as arty-farty and elitist is ceremonially flushed down a cartoon loo, and she has been reduced to playing caricature germs in ads for disinfectants. Together, they send you out to your interval drinks feeling that a) the man and dramatist in Hare are both sickened by the slick philistinism of the electronic age; but that b) his case would be stronger if he made it clearer what kind of theatre and art Esme embodies and Dominic hates.

There are moments in the second half, too, when you wonder if that late, great reactionary John Osborne, has been reincarnated in the radical Hare. It is the 1990s. Rural Berkshire, where the bulk of the play occurs, is a suburban theme-park in which pubs have become wine-bars selling "wind-dried yak meat". Dominic is achieving world fame by making movies in which skulls are lovingly observed exploding. As for Esme, she has been beguiled by a doting neighbour (in Ronald Pickup's excellent performance, a mix of the sweet, the tweedy and the sottish) into becoming a *Lloyd's name* and, as a result, has debts too huge to be repaid by her latest career-move, which is playing a doughty nurse in a TV soap.

Somewhere during a quarrel between Amy and Esme about the meaning of "taking control" of one's life, I wondered if the play was getting too unfocused, too scattered. But even if that's so, there are compensations. Again and again Richard Eyre's finely honed production wins your respect for Hare's wit and craft. Increasingly, it does the same for his sense of fair play, his willingness to offer a hearing even to the unlovely Dominic. But it is his handling of Esme that gives the evening its depth and, for all the seeming untidiness, its shape and coherence.

I don't think I'm spoiling too many surprises if I reveal that during the play she loses pretty well everything, but somehow ends up the gainer. And that allows Dench to give a tough, touching performance. To see her at the end, staring dark-eyed into her dressing-room mirror as she remembers the greatest blow she has suffered, is to feel twice blessed. A major dramatist has written a strong, rich play, and a major actress has done him proud.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

Ronald Pickup, Judi Dench, Eoin McCarthy and Samantha Bond in David Hare's masterly view of life, the theatre and everything, *Amy's View*

Who will buy this Big Issue?

The Twilight of the Golds
Arts

HERE is an old-fashioned *issue* play. Now, you could call *Ghosts* an issue play, in that it fits that category of drama where private relationships are the focus for exploring public matters. But what makes Jonathan Tolins's 1993 play seem even older-fashioned than Ibsen's is in part due to its New York setting, where we are presented, once again, with a Jewish civilisation and its discontents, wisecracking and weeping.

"How many times do you have to have your heart broke?" asks the mother (Sheila Allen), who might have become a grandmother if only her children and Western society and the march of science had behaved with more consideration.

Here are the parents who smother their children, the whingeing daughter who relies on her mother more than her husband, the sensitive and artistic son. What marks them out as different, of course, is that Tolins blasts them apart with a Big Issue. Yes, folks, what we have here is an Abortion Play.

Times have moved on from discussions of whether a mother has the right, etcetera. Tolins is concerned with the grounds on which a choice might be founded. He imagines that research scientists have isolated a gay gene. "It's going to be like you," somebody says to David, the opera-loving son. Which nobody in their right mind could possibly want. Tolins is at pains to show us the homophobia underlying fond feelings, but the play's development is foreseeable from the moment the characters start displaying their attitudes.

In Polly James's dutiful production Jason Gould plays the sweet-natured, cultured, fault-free David. But the writing fails to extend the character beyond politely argued outrage, with smugness not far behind. The scientist son-in-law (Mark Hadfield) describes his princess's voice as that of a whining adolescent: Gina Bellman's performance accepts this.

All five characters lecture us on their feelings in what are probably meant to be arias without music, for the play is brimful with references to Wagner's biggy, and the play ends as the waters of the Hudson rise and three Hudsonmaidens carry off all the Golds to the bottom of the river. I'm joking, alas.

JEREMY KINGSTON

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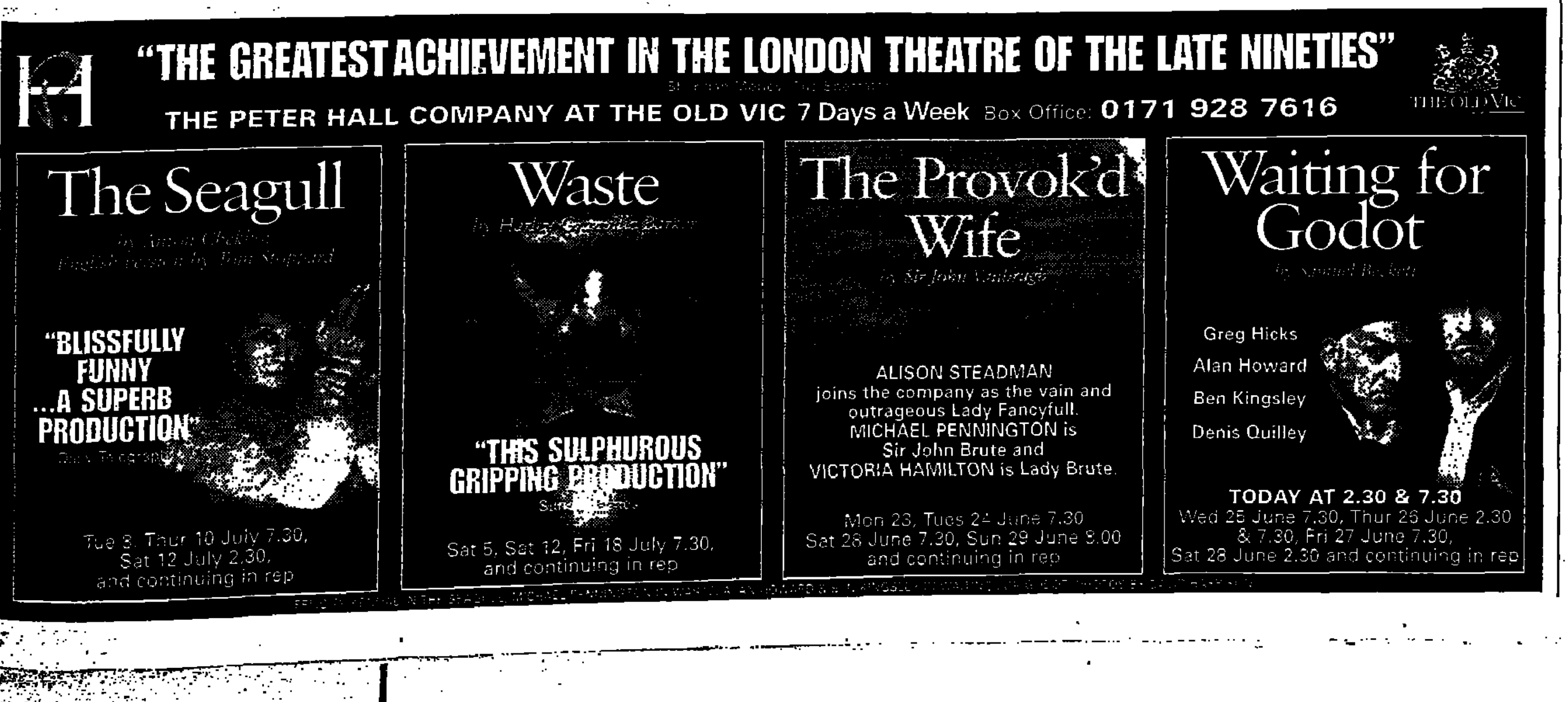

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Tony Blair: a communitarian in the making?

Amitai Etzioni on new Labour's bid to make our rights reflect our duties

In every conversation I have had on my visit to Britain since the general election, one question has been repeated: what will Tony Blair do for the country? Will he be a gentler Tory, show his true old Labour colours, or will he strike in a new, perhaps communitarian, direction?

Given Mr Blair's sizeable victory, the special powers he has as a British Prime Minister (vastly superior to a French one, not to mention an American President) and his energetic start, the question is understandable. However, in view of the sharp limits that global economic forces set on national governments, we must face a communitarian reworking of President Kennedy's famous challenge: do not ask what your country can do for you, but what you can do for yourself, your close ones and your community. My idea of community is broadly conceived: it includes the nation, Europe if you feel expansive, and one day the world.

Long before the election, much was made of Mr Blair's changes in Clause Four of the Labour Party constitution. In examining the change, most observers focused on the fact that the old Labour preference for big government was ditched. Much less attention has been accorded to the new Clause Four — one that recognises the importance of community, of a society in which "the rights we enjoy reflect the duties we owe". And an important motto of the election campaign was "responsibility for all, responsibility from all" — as communitarian a notion as they come.

Mr Blair has called for a "culture of responsibility" in welfare recipients. (Though it remains to be seen if, when a unit trust, a pension scheme or a major workplace comes unstuck, he calls on others in the same industry to come to the victims' aid, or uses the Government to bail them out.) These ideas, and the public philosophy and images they evoke, played a significant role in Mr Blair's victory. They now provide criteria against which his communitarianism may be measured.

The most important implication of the new Clause Four is that new Labour recognises that a communitarian society entails much more than nurturing local residential communities, or building on small platoons; it is necessary to change the culture and structure of society. Communitarian culture is needed to replace the welfare state notion of entitlement — that once one pays one's taxes, the State will attend to one's needs from cradle to grave — with the realisation that for the ship of state to progress, everyone must pull the oars.

Communitarian culture rejects the Thatcherite notion that maximising self-interest benefits society as a whole. While there is a need for more self-reliance, communitarian culture stresses the need for reciprocity; for members of a community to help one another, not as an act of charity, but as an act of mutuality — one for all and all for one. Communitarian culture also entails moving much closer to the people, devolving power to the council or parish level, using democratic reforms to reverse Thatcherite centralism.

Early tests of Blair's communitarian colours may be seen in small measures to help change the culture. Will he, for example, promote parents' co-operatives in which fathers and mothers share childcare duties? In Germany's *Kinderladen*, or playgroups, each parent is required to contribute some time. This reduces public costs, helps bond the parents to one another, and provides built-in inspection. Communitarian mutuality is also advanced when neighbours attend to one another if one is discharged from hospital, ever earlier, as is increasingly the practice.

Communitarians are often asked how folks could do more for one another, or for stricken members of their families, when both parents often work outside the home — and in all too many there is only one parent serving both as breadwinner and homemaker. Part of the answer might lie in devoting, say, two of the dozens of hours a week people spend watching television to social endeavours.

More of the answer lies in drawing on the growing class of senior citizens. Here, too, the notion that one is entitled needs to be replaced with the idea that one needs to give something back, not out of altruism but to make the system work, and because people who serve good causes feel ennobled rather than coerced. Centres for senior citizens find that older folks greatly enjoy spending time with one another. People with cancer, HIV, alcoholism, Alzheimer's and some forms of mental illness do much better (and cost the public less) when they join mutual support groups.

The communitarian paradigm does not call for closing down the welfare state and replacing it with armies of volunteers. It envisages a triumvirate, in which the State, the private sector and various institutions of the community co-operate to shoulder social burdens.

> People who serve good causes feel ennobled, not coerced

Welfare reform is a case in point. Mr Blair is following the American example in tackling unemployment. As many of those on welfare have children, it is suggested that the Government will use public funds to provide childcare for those wishing to work. However, given that it is desirable for a parent of infants to stay at home, these people could discharge their communitarian duties by providing childcare for other claimants who wish to work outside the household.

Moreover, in an economy that still has considerable unemployment, pushing welfare clients to work is likely to push others into unemployment and ultimately on to welfare. A communitarian solution lies in assigning claimants to community work which would otherwise not be carried out: cleaning up parks, for instance. This requires boards, which exist in America, of unions and government representatives, to ensure that those who do community service will do only work that truly would not be carried out otherwise.

How might the culture be changed to become more communitarian? Mr Blair can continue to issue exhortations, using what Americans call the "bully pulpit". But speeches, however well crafted, go only part of the way. Referendums can focus a nation's attention, so long as there are no more than two or three a year. Serious public dialogue is necessary if he seeks broad support for policies that seek to address complex and value-laden issues such as Europe, inequality, or protecting the NHS.

Tony Blair needs such a public dialogue if he is to persuade people that they must change their habits, and if he is to reduce the scope of government while deepening support for what the State will continue to have to do.

Professor Etzioni is the founding president of the Communitarian Network. He has just returned to his chair at George Washington University after teaching briefly at the London School of Economics. His book The New Golden Rule: Morality in a Free Society *is published next week by Profile.*

Our suburban shrines of sport are envied, but Britain's best dread playing there, says **Simon Barnes**

Lose at Lord's and weep at Wimbledon

It is one of those strange facts of life that the names of unextraordinary London suburbs, places banal enough to those who live in them, commute through them or seek the late-night off-licence within their midst, are to the rest of the world words that tingle with romance, beauty, hope and dreams. It is merely a matter of chance that the world does not celebrate with fear and trembling Surbiton, Morden, Northolt, Kilburn. Instead, bearing names that ring in the global imagination like Siam, Cathay, Samarkand and Mandalay, we have the no less ordinary London suburbs of Twickenham, Wimbledon, Wembley, Marylebone.

Sport, you see. In each of these places stands a sports stadium. I have been to much better stadiums for watching sport, getting to the bar, finding the lavatory — but that is not the point. These quotidien suburbs are, to the wide world, places of genuine reverence: places of pilgrimage, no less.

Twickenham, for rugby union, Wembley for football. Wimbledon is for many people across the world not so much the best as the only tennis tournamenent. Even the postcode, SW19, is renowned.

The last name is these days the most obscure, but it was once the modest banner behind which marched the flower of the British Empire. Test matches overseas were played not by England but by the Marylebone Cricket Club.

The MCC's, and the game's, headquarters is Lord's Cricket Ground. Rather damp this week: and those optimists among us pray that cataracts and hurricanoes will spout till at least Monday teatime; perhaps, better still, until the first week of September.

For it will have escaped the attention of no one with sporting blood in the veins that England beat Australia at cricket, an epic surprise if ever there was one, in the first Test at Edgbaston (Birmingham suburbs don't have quite the same Proustian ring) a fortnight back.

Lord's, the shrine, the Holy of Holies, the resting place of the Ashes, the thumb-sized trophy for which these cricket matches have been played for more than a century, is in theory the perfect place for England to press home their good start, intimidate the enemy with the weight of our past and club them to death with our history. But no. In the present Test match, things have begun very badly.

In fact, England have not beaten Australia at Lord's since 1934. Even when Australia got hammered in the 1985 series, they won at Lord's. Of the last 20 Tests at Lord's, England have lost nine, drawn seven. They did beat Sri Lanka twice.

On the first day of Wimbledon, or rather the All England Lawn Tennis Championships, we journos meet to sort out who does what. And each paper will appoint its Losing Brits Correspondent. You'll be the busiest, ho ho ho. We make that joke every year.

Like Lord's, Wimbledon is a venue that brings out the worst in the home players, the best in the visitors. It inspires those who come in awe to worship: it overwhelms those for whom it is part of everyday life.

It is a place where every British player since Fred Perry (winner 1934, 1935, 1936) has underachieved. Virginia Wade, the last Brit to win a singles title in 1977, should have won more, but Wimbledon nerves almost never failed to get to her.

Since then, British tennis followers have suffered along with the gallant Jo Durie and her three-set martyrdoms, through the diffident hopefulness of Jeremy Bates, the man in the white woolly. Tim Henman's achievements at Wimbledon last year — he reached the quarter-finals — were as much a surprise as a delight. He flew in the face of all postwar tradition.

Wembley has seen a fair bit of England's glory in its time, but always less than it might. Despite an upturn in fortune of late, the last two very big matches ended in defeat, to Germany on penalties in the European Championship, and to Italy this year in the World Cup qualififers.

Twickenham has often been England's disaster area; in the 1970s they lost 14 times in 25 games. But since then, they have gradually set about the destruction of this uniquely British phenomenon of home disadvantage.

These aromatically named London suburbs throb with the pulse of history: history not of the country but the world. This is because the British invented most of the world's best games and, when Top Nation, spread them around the Empire and the world.

But the British of today are not so much overwhelmed by imperial history as hideously embarrassed. The modern view of Empire is like the Victorian view of sex: we all know it has been going on all over the place for years, we all know it was how we got here, and it made us what we are today — but we must never ever mention it, still less take pleasure in it. Guilt is the only emotion permitted. At Lord's, at Wimbledon this June, we watch and we share once again in the trauma of Empire and its ending. History is a nightmare from which we are trying to wake up.

Oxford's dreaming minaret

A new Islamic Centre is eclectic and amusing. The dons of Merton hate it

Simon Jenkins

Forget Oxford University and think of Oxford. Here is one of the most exquisite small towns in Europe. It has the finest High Street, the largest group of medieval buildings, the noblest domestic architecture, the loveliest green spaces and a necklace of incomparable chapels, quadrangles and halls.

Yet we must not forget the university. Oxford has survived because it houses the most conservative institution in the world. Other service industries may feel the need to update their plant. To Oxford, what was good enough for the schoolmen and Erasmus has always been good enough: a format of tower, gatehouse, quadrangle and staircase, embracing good living and communal intercourse, used for only half of each year to be given time to breathe.

Generations of benefactors, from Balliol to Nuffield, may shower wealth on Oxford, but they must buy the format. When Lord Nuffield submitted, he behaved like a Tuscan grandee, demanding that at least his tower be the tallest. Donors should be grateful that the university was taking their cash. Any grudging and the most powerful alumni in the land would subject a donor to such abuse that he would wish he had spent his money on a yacht.

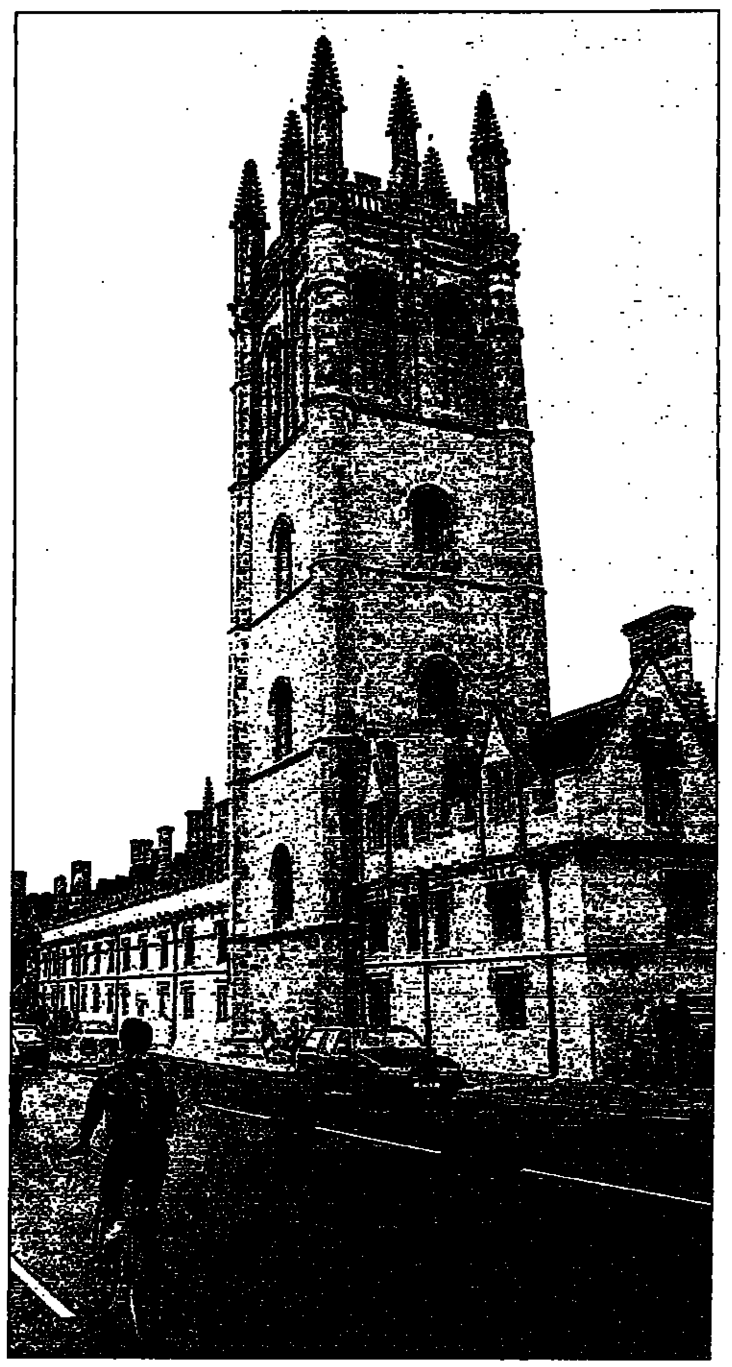
In the past year, three multi-million-pound gifts have been greeted by Oxford like garments from a plague village. Last year, Gert-Rudolf Flick saw his offer of a centre for European studies at Balliol turned down on grounds of his grandfather's Nazi connections.

Last year the Wafic Said Business School almost went the same way, taking with it a £20 million donation. Mr Said was accused of being an arms dealer who wanted to seize green-belt land and the name of Oxford for a privately controlled institution — charges in which there was some truth. Last week he graciously backed down and was duly offered a new site next to the railway station. (When President Mugabe was told he had to name a Harare street after Kenneth Kaunda, he chose an alley near the goods yard.)

Now pandemonium has broken out over a proposed Centre for Islamic Studies on open space between St Catherine's College and Magdalen deer park. This time the backers are the royal houses of Brunei and Saudi Arabia. The intermediary is none other than Prince Bandar bin Sultan, Saudi Ambassador to Washington, with another £20 million, in league with the Prince of Wales. This is more than Oxford can bear. Why does money grow on such prickly trees?

Battle is now joined in a mêlée of academic integrity and aesthetics. Surely the austere and intolerant House of Fahd will not sponsor the intellectual independence required of an Oxford institution (though the Islamic Centre has been in existence for a decade). More serious is the design. The Saudis have commissioned Abdel Wahed al-Wakil, who practises in Britain and is favoured by the Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture. The building is on two acres of old tennis courts. The plan is traditional, with quadrangles, gardens, hall and tower. The details are unmistakably Islamic. Principal of these is a domed mosque and a 108ft minaret. The minaret is the last straw. It would thrust up among the dreaming spires, within muezzin-call of the apogee of perpendicular Christianity, Magdalen College tower. Not since the minaret of the London Mosque was built plum on the axis of St John's Wood High Street has there been such a visual culture clash. Merton College, which leased the land to the Centre, took one look at the plans and threw a fit. It dismissed them as "a mish-mash of Eastern and Western influences" and summoned its lawyers. All the princes of Arabia might propose, but the Fellows of Merton would dispose. They were not having some Arabic rubbish on their aesthetic consciences.

I would think an Oxford Islamic centre ought to be "a mix of Eastern and Western influences". The phrase applied with credit to Venice, to Ravenna, indeed to the origins of Gothic itself. The proposal does look over-big for what is still a semi-rural part of Oxford. But the style is eclectic and amusing. Tony Smith, the president of neighbouring Magdalen, finds it "enchanting, with quadrangles and gardens leading into one another in the best Oxford fashion". Mr Smith recently commissioned an equally traditional building from the Greek architect Demetri Porphyrios; it now graces the other side of his deer park, and fits well into the late medieval, early 18th-century and neo-Gothic ensemble of Magdalen.



Will dons tolerate a minaret within a muezzin-call of the apogee of perpendicular Christian architecture, Magdalen College tower?

Compared with the cruel frigidity of St Catherine's and the concrete science bunkers to the west, both buildings are a blessed relief, humanist and appropriate to the Oxford scene.

I wonder how Merton's Fellows would have reacted if Abdel Wahed had proposed a stark steel and glass cube. They would have been cowed into silence. Such is the dictatorship of Modernism that they would not have dared dismiss it as a "crude mish-mash of Corbusian and Miesian influences".

The works of Porphyrios, Jeremy Dixon (of the business school) and now Abdel Wahed suffer from being stylistically recognisable. Words such as pastiche and mish-mash trip from the tongue. Macho dons are supposed to love only concrete and steel.

Yet this cynicism towards tradition and appeasement of ugliness has given Oxford three decades of bad buildings and worse planning. Five minutes away from the Islamic site can be seen New College's Sacher building, Queen's College's Florey and Magdalen's own Waynflete, monsters on which the passage of time has impressed only the ghost of decay. Similar horrors have blighted corners of most colleges — Wadham, Worcester, St John's, Brasenose, St Anne's, Christ Church. These are not great wounds — Oxford is too robust for that — but scar tissue which nothing can heal short of demolition. Nor does familiarity breed respect. The much-lauded "beehives" that I once occupied in St John's still look as ill-fitting and jerry-built as when they went up in the 1960s.

College and university patrons did not intend ugliness. The best architects were sought — Powell and Moya, Stirling, Philip Dowson, Leslie Martin — and money was plentiful. Yet the times were out of joint with Oxford's format. Steel frames, plate glass, streaked stone and concrete elbowed their way into quadrangles and leered across gardens. (Only MacCormack's lakeside pavilion at Worcester could be thought loveable.) It is hard to visit Oxford and not sympathise with William Morris: "A kind of terror always falls upon me as I near it ... indignation at wanton or rash change mingles anxiously in me with all that I remember I have lost."

Oxford was traditionally a city built by angels but guarded by philistines. More recently town has been eager to spite gown, with such vandalism as the demolition of the entire St Ebbe's quarter and the desecration of Marston meadows, both for so-called "inner relief roads" that would never be built today. Christ Church meadow was saved from a similar fate only after Cabinet intervention. The Broad, as fine a street as the High, yearns to be cleared of traffic and paved as a piazza, as it would be in any Italian or French town. Twenty years ago, the critic James Stevens Curl witnessed all this folly and wrote a diatribe against "The Erosion of Oxford". He concluded that the place "need expect no glorious or even civilised future".

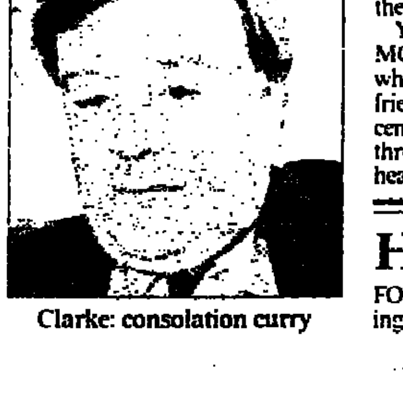
The worst of the epidemic seems to be receding. I am mildly reassured by Oxford's outwardly absurd bouts of conscience. Dons grab at any money going, but instantly plunge themselves into doubt and guilt. They pick over the proffered lucre, bite it, ask its provenance. They are above such common emotions as greed, corruption or gratitude. And they have plenty of time in which to argue.

That doyen of Oxford eccentricity, the late Felix Markham, wrote that "Oxford does not lightly or giddily accept change". During his period, almost all of its changes were for the worse. Yet the saga of Wafic Said's endowment has turned out right. With compromise, so too should the Islamic Centre. The present generation of dons may be holding their noses as they tiptoe. But they are heading for a better guardianship of Oxford than the place has seen in years.

Raita wing

TAKING a note out of John Major's book, Kenneth Clarke, the cheroot-puffing former Chancellor, took his defeat at the hands of the Thatcher/Hague bandwagon with admirable dignity.

With some 20 members of his campaign team trailing behind him, he marched down the street from his headquarters to Hague's celebration party and warmly congratulated the new leader.



Clarke: consolation curry

Then, with a searching look in his sad eyes, he cheered himself by heading currywards. He took his mob to Kennington Road in south London for mouth-burning baltis and flagons of lager.

The meal was convivial under the circumstances, and became merrier as it stretched on past midnight. Clarke talked of his plans for the future: long lunches at the Garrick, followed by a snooze.

Yesterday, he appeared in the MCC Warner stand at Lord's, which is reserved for members and friends. It was all oddly reminiscent of Major, who curried his way through the election campaign and headed for the Oval in defeat.

Help!

FOR John Birt, the Armani-wearing Beatles fancier and heritage custodian, this is the dream property. The National Trust is looking for a custodian to live in and look after Sir Paul McCartney's old house in Liverpool.

It was Birt who alerted the trust to the fact that the house was for sale after seeing estate agent signs while taking his children on a magical mystery tour of Liverpool. Renovations on the property at 20 Forthlin Road, currently being done with a £47,500 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, will soon be finished and the trust needs somebody to live there. "The job is to greet visitors, take them round, answer any questions, and to look after the property."

The sword of truth and shield of fairplay didn't stand a chance

Baud-acious

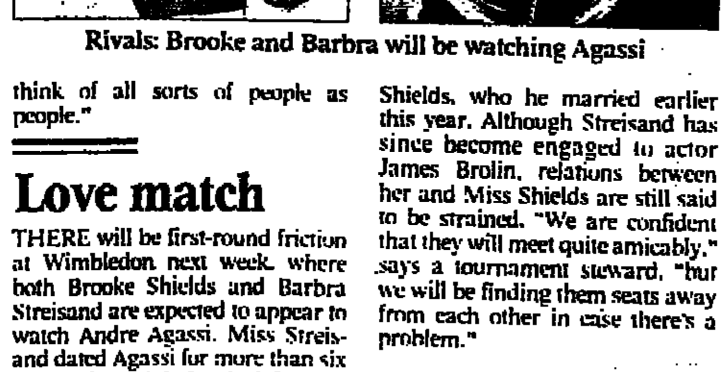
FROM the pages of *Psion User* magazine comes a royal mystery story. When King Baudouin I of Belgium headed for the great *moules frites* joint in the sky last year, among his possessions was found a Psion organiser. When the king's aides tried to turn it on, however, they found that the old boy had protected his machine with a password. They rang Psion to ask if they could crack it. As the programmers chewed their pencils thinking of a solution, they received another call from the Belgian palace telling them to call off their investigations and let the King's secrets die with him. So they did, and whatever secret life was contained on the organiser remains forever secret.

THE TIMES DIARY

Rude Rudi

RESIDENTS of Finchley, who fondly remember when Baroness Thatcher represented them, are distinctly unimpressed with Dr Rudi Vis, their new Labour MP.

Interviewed in *The House Magazine*, the Dutch-born Vis, 56, remembers the days when he was employed in a hotel in Amsterdam. "It was a wonderful period of my life: the prostitutes used to come round for coffee and drinks and sit around chatting to all the hotel staff, who mostly happened to be gay. It did teach me that one should think of all sorts of people as people."



Rivals: Brooke and Barbra will be watching Agassi

Love match

THERE will be first-round friction at Wimbledon next week, where both Brooke Shields and Barbra Streisand are expected to appear to watch Andre Agassi. Miss Streisand dated Agassi for more than six months in 1993, before he left her to pursue the younger, lustier Miss Shields, who he married earlier this year. Although Streisand has since become engaged to actor James Brolin, relations between her and Miss Shields are still said to be strained. "We are confident that they will meet quite amicably," says a tournament steward, "but we will be finding them seats away from each other in case there's a problem."

P·H·S

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاصل

SWORD OF TRUTH

Investigative journalism is the true guardian of public morality

Jonathan Aitken plunged yesterday into a mire of his own making. More than one man has been disgraced; in his fall, he has dragged with him the reputations of the Tory party and the Government in which he served. And he has further damaged the esteem in which those in public life are held.

Mr Aitken brazenly betrayed the trust which was vested in him: as a Member of Parliament, as a Minister, as a member of the Cabinet, and as a Privy Councillor. He deceived the Prime Minister, no less, and the Cabinet Secretary. He brought his party and his office into disrepute. For that he deserves today's opprobrium.

When Mr Aitken announced that he was suing *The Guardian* and Granada TV for libel, he used the purplest of prose to describe his purpose. He swore to take up "the simple sword of truth and the trusty shield of British fair play" in order to attack "bitter and twisted journalism". As it turned out, the sword of truth was to be found in the hands of journalists, not the scabbards of politicians. For the truth, Mr Aitken seems to have had scant regard and less respect.

His actions throughout this investigation have followed the same disreputable pattern. First he would lie; when his story was questioned, he would embellish the lie; and then he would encourage others to join him so that the edifice of his fiction would be supported. The vilest aspect of this case is that he persuaded his teenage daughter, his wife and his mother-in-law to sign affidavits that were mendacious. Had *The Guardian*'s new evidence not come to light earlier this week, causing the collapse of the trial, these women, including his daughter, would have been expected to commit perjury in the witness box.

It is hard enough to understand how Mr Aitken could have allowed a Saudi friend to pay for his stay at the Ritz in Paris when he was in as sensitive a position as Minister for Defence Procurement. But to embark then on a libel action, knowing that he was in the wrong, shows the most extraordinary lack of judgment. Did he expect *The Guardian* to back down in the face of intimidation? Or to run out of money? If so, the sin of arrogance must be added to that of greed.

To their great credit, *The Guardian* and Granada refused to be bullied. The quality of their investigative journalism paid off. In the last Government it became fashionable to deride such journalism as biased and ill-informed. The record of *The Guardian* in defending and winning four recent libel actions, including that against Neil Hamilton, shows it to be a valuable contributor to the upholding of standards in public life. It has exposed venality and deception in those who lay claim to be guardians of the public interest. Its success should help to deter any politicians who might be tempted in future to abuse their position.

Mr Aitken's case casts light too on the judgment of his senior colleagues. Margaret Thatcher prudently refused to promote him and not entirely, one would imagine, because of the way he treated her daughter. John Major, however, gave him a job which was far too delicate for a man with such public Saudi connections. And, when the allegations about Mr Aitken were presented to him, Mr Major merely asked his Cabinet Secretary to investigate them, a task for which Sir Robin Butler was ill-equipped.

Mr Aitken may be a clever and amusing man. He certainly added a dash of colour and energy to Conservative politics. But his arrogance blinded him to the risks that he was taking at every step of this sleazy saga. That he has made a useful contribution to public life should not mitigate his offence. If anything, it makes it worse. Politicians have to be more scrupulous than other people, not less. Failure to recognise that was Mr Aitken's abiding mistake.

DOWN TO EARTH

The planet needs targets, laws and concrete steps, not hot air

In 1992 the leaders of more than 100 nations met in Rio de Janeiro for an Earth-saving extravaganza. Their vaunted aim was to tackle the threat of a deteriorating environment. Now, five years on, government ministers are assembling once again, this time in New York, to review progress and draft a blueprint for continuing action. But can the summit's present resolutions be anchored when past promises have drifted away and future answers are still blowing in the wind?

The Rio summit was a significant moment, vitalised by an insistent sense of urgency. Swept forward on a wave of media interest, there was an impassioned response to environmental problems. Three new conventions were agreed in Rio — on climate change, biodiversity and desertification. A weighty action plan for sustainable development was laboriously negotiated. The developed world promised to make "new and additional" money available to help poorer nations achieve targets.

But rhetoric outraced reality. Since 1992 levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere have risen considerably, millions of rainforested acres have been cleared, thousands of species have ceased to exist and the convention on desertification seems to have lost itself completely in a wilderness of UN bureaucracy. Moreover, the developing world is resentful that the richer nations have reneged on their agreement to donate a fixed percentage of their GNP to foreign aid. Only a handful, the Scandinavians unsurprisingly among them, have met their proclaimed targets.

The climate of change has gone stale. Earth Summit II faces a political impasse. Disenchanted Third World nations threaten to block any new agreements. President Clinton, daunted by pressure from industrial interestsand the economic warnings of his conservative Congress, is reluctant to make energy cutbacks.

Britain now has an important role to play in releasing this deadlock. Tony Blair and his team at the summit — John Prescott, Robin Cook, Clare Short and Michael Meacher included — must avail themselves of any special relationship with the Clinton Administration, goading it out of standstill and forwards to a commitment to reduce the vast fossil fuel budget of their country.

The United Kingdom Government stands in a position of relative strength. Of the 20 nations which promised five years ago to return carbon dioxide emissions to 1990 levels before the new millennium, Britain is one of only three to be still on broadly on track — albeit more for reasons of political coincidence (the decline of our mining industry) than policy.

Since it was elected, the Labour Government has pledged to do its utmost for the domestic environment. Now Mr Blair must persuade others to follow his lead. The world will no longer be content with pompous platitudes that have no legal force. Targets for carbon dioxide emission cuts should not only be set, but have penalties attached. Firm promises of overseas aid to promote the greening of Third World industry should not only be made, but kept. Western countries should offer financial incentives, such as tax breaks, to investors in renewable energy sources. But the planet could do without any more hot air from Earth Summit II.

THE AGE OF RELATIVITY

By the age 36 a man can be bald, married and a party leader

Thirty-six is a very attractive age. Politics is full of elder statesmen such as Lord Parkinson, the Chairman of the Conservative Party, who have, by their own free choice and cosmetic grooming, remained 36 for years. Because they also play in a branch of show business, politicians are as inclined to creative accountancy with their birthdays as film stars. Nancy Astor refused to admit to being more than 36, even though it made her sons illegitimate. And many other celebrities who claim to have been born in 1961 can justify their claim only because the room next door in the maternity hospital was number 1962.

But for William Hague, the new leader of the Conservative Party, 36 has been a lucky birthday. His supporters can welcome him as the leader of a new generation, free from the stains of the past. His opponents may sneer that he was already an elderly 36 in short trousers when he made his speech to the Tory party conference. But Mr Hague's reply was rehearsed for him by an even younger leader. William Pitt, the younger, who emerged as leader from an even more devious selection process than the present Conservative system, was only 24 and also Prime Minister when he defied his youthist critics in the House of Commons: "The atrocious crime of being a young man I shall neither attempt to palliate nor deny."

And 36 itself has many flexible factors. Britain's old imperial system of weights and measures worked with twelves because they divide and multiply in more ways than the rigid continental decimal system. And 36 has been an age of achievement, especially for scientists, because their work takes fire from youthful sparks of imagination rather than old embers. Aged 36, Einstein published his general theory of relativity. Rutherford was 36 when he was awarded the Nobel Prize for describing the architecture of the atom. And John Maynard Keynes was 36 when he published *The Economic Consequences of the Peace* and so founded his school of modern economics. Byron died when he was 36, and Shelley and Keats never made it to the magic age. But Jane Austen published her first book and George Eliot began her first novel at 36.

The modern cult of youth has pushed the boundaries of 36dom both backwards and forwards. So *The Tatler's* teenage supplement has shocked the professionally shockable by its list of things that should have been done by the time one is 18, such as losing one's virginity and spending a night in a police cell. While at the other end sportsmen such as Linford Christie, Jack Nicklaus and Lester Piggott carry on until they are well past 36, and the veterans' circuit at golf is big business for the grey swingers.

This modern multiplication of 36 as the prime age of opportunity has reduced the ages of man to four: infancy, childhood, adolescence for all the years around 36, and obsolescence. So Mr Hague is of an inspiring age to become a party leader. And if he were felt to be a blank 36, leading the Conservative Party in its present state is a recipe for making 36 years feel twice as old.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Uncertainties over Hague as leader

From Mr Derek Young

Sir, The election of William Hague as Tory leader presents problems for Scottish Conservatives.

Firstly, as around Britain, the majority of constituency chairmen and chairwomen preferred the more moderate Kenneth Clarke. They will be disappointed by the failure of MPs to pay attention to the feeling of party activists throughout the country.

Secondly, the new leader's first official party engagement will be to address the Scottish Tory conference in Perth next week, where some in the party hope to secure more organisational autonomy and democracy for the party in Scotland, including the right to elect their own leader. Mr Hague's views on this are unknown.

Some Scottish activists also seek a more conciliatory policy on the creation of a Scottish Parliament. Mr Hague has expressed his strong opposition to this in the past, and has advocated that Conservatives campaign for a "no" vote to both questions in the upcoming referendum.

If Mr Hague's attitude to such flexibility in the party mirrors his approach to the single currency issue, he could find that May 1 was not the low-point of the Scottish Tories' electoral fortunes.

Yours faithfully,
DEREK YOUNG
(Parliamentary candidate for
Carrick, Cumnock and Doon Valley,
Liberal Democrat, 1997),
38 Knoweholm,
Doonfoot, Ayr.
derek.g.young@strath.ac.uk
June 19.

From Mr Mark Dunn

Sir, For the first time this century it seems possible that the Tory party in Parliament has chosen a rather querulous little Englander to be its leader.

Far from healing the splits in the Conservative Party in the nation as a whole, it seems probable that Mr Hague's election as leader in Westminster will raise more questions than it answers.

Down here in Chichester, a rock-solid Tory seat, we electors will have the luxury of being able to watch Mr Hague's performance in Westminster with slightly amazed interest. Many of us will take comfort from the fact that, in opposition, he'll have time to earn his spurs before he's trusted at the helm.

But even more of us will ask ourselves whether the leadership of Her Majesty's loyal Opposition isn't too important to be left to a band of faction-fighting MPs, who do not represent the Tory voters in the seats which will one day have to be won back.

After all, the 92 MPs who picked Hague can hardly be said to have had a mandate from the rest of the poor suffering party.

Yours faithfully,
MARK DUNN,
Wildham, Stoughton,
Chichester, West Sussex.
June 19.

From Mr Leslie Holgate

Sir, I congratulate William Hague on his election to lead the Conservative Party. However, he may find it a little more difficult to be elected to the high office of Prime Minister.

He should perhaps consider the possibility that Conservative votes put Mr Blair into No 10. Had Mr Major made an election promise to change his Cabinet he could, in my view, probably still have been at that address.

Yours truly,
LESLIE HOLGATE,
Arfryn, Cwm Road,
Dyserth, Denbighshire.
June 19.

From Mr Nicholas Bennett

Sir, As the Conservative Party's new leader takes office, may I echo Peter Riddell's tribute to John Major (June 17) for his years of service to this country.

I first met John Major when, as a 23-year-old undergraduate, I was selected as the Conservative GLC candidate for St Pancras North in 1972. John Major was already the prospective parliamentary candidate for the constituency. Later I had the honour to serve as a minister in his first administration.

It would, I believe, be a tragedy if, at the age of 54, the country had no further use for John Major's undoubted abilities. His experience, grasp of detail, good humour, courtesy and negotiating skill would be of immense benefit in any one of a number of international posts.

Yours faithfully,
NICHOLAS BENNETT,
Felstead House, 86 Tilehurst Road,
Reading, Berkshire.
June 19.

From Mr Philip Circus

Sir, In choosing a leader the Conservative Party has, once again, made the fundamental mistake of confusing likeability with electability.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP CIRCUS,
Coney Warren Cottage,
Golf Club Road,
St George's Hill, Weybridge, Surrey.
June 19.

Weekend Money letters, page 45

Clearing fog on shipping forecasts

From Mr Gary Chance

Sir, Finally, thanks to Bill Frost (feature, June 16), "The Secret of the Shipping Forecast" begins to be unveiled.

I have delighted in its mystery and sonorous tones for years, wanting and not wanting at the same time to know explicit locations. It was more intriguing to treat it as a puzzle, whilst trying to fathom locations and put together a mental weather map.

Now, at last, I know where these names really are and have seen a list of them — a mystical poetry in themselves, invoking the imaginative fantasy so well illustrated by the poem you quote, written by Julia Darling.

Lawrence Durrell noted in *Bitter Lemons* that it is better to get to know an island slowly and savour the experience, since one is limited by finite boundaries in a small place; so for me it has been with the shipping forecast.

To have the launch of e-mail letters on the same day is overwhelming by contrast — like island-hopping, an opportunity not to be missed.

Yours faithfully,
GARY CHANCE,
523 Hurstway Walk, W11.
garychance@aol.com

From Mr Charles Wylie

Sir, Your article prompts me to seek help from your correspondents on refining the rules of my decades-old pastime of composing the forecast for our local area, Wight, before the "calm and measured tones" pronounce the Met Office verdict.

From a mental picture of the weather map based on the reading of the general synopsis one can forecast the weather in one's own area (ten marks for getting it exactly right at this stage). With the march of Tyne and Dogger, leading to Humber and Thames, one can refine the prediction (only one mark for getting it precisely correct one shipping area in advance).

With full confidence in its accuracy, I can reveal my total score over some thirty years — zero. Getting it right except for one word ("showers" rather than "occasional showers") is not good enough. Does anyone else play this infuriating game?

I have the honour to be, Sir,
your windblown servant,
CHARLES WYLIE,
The Wolery, Lodge Hill,
Newton Village, Hampshire.
June 16.

From Mr Charles P. F. Baillie

Sir, I submit that the attraction of the shipping forecasts may lie less in their cadence than in their precision. Nowhere in Britain is more than 70 miles from the sea, and observation can enable anyone to determine quite accurately the local weather by reference to the wind direction and barometric pressure set out in the shipping forecast.

This information is almost totally lacking in the normal radio weather forecasts, which ramble up and down and across the country with little pattern and less meaningful information — eg, "There may be the odd shower here and there".

Yours faithfully,
C. P. F. BAILLIE,
3 West End Farm,
Locking,
Weston-super-Mare, Somerset.
June 16.

From Mr G. A. Royle

Sir, Mr Frost observes that "if the wind is in the north and is changing in a northeasterly direction, it is said to be 'backing' ".

Not by any seaman, I'm afraid. A wind changing in a clockwise direction is a *veering* wind. A northeasterly wind turning to the north is "backing".

Yours sincerely,
G. A. ROYLE,
25 Spinney Green,
St Helens, Merseyside.
June 16.

From Mr Roger G. Dawson

Sir, In consideration for the "quota-hoppers", may I suggest that in future the BBC transmit the shipping forecast in Spanish.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER DAWSON,
11 Norfolk Road,
Lytham, Lancashire.
June 17.

From Mr Bill Woodruff

Sir, In the past, some of your readers have complained that, with the low rainfall now experienced in some areas, forecasters have been apologetic when predicting it.

By contrast, the admirable shipping forecasts have the added attraction of occasionally expressing apparent approbation for expected precipitation. For example, the Shannon/Rockall forecast quoted in the article reads "... Showers. Good."

Yours faithfully,
BILL WOODRUFF,
Great Oaks,
36 Court Road,
Ickenham, Middlesex.
June 16.

Supervision of trainee surgeons

From Sir Rodney Sweetnam,
President of the Royal College
of Surgeons of England

Sir, Professor Janet Wilson's postal survey (report, June 20) makes news because it reveals that some surgical trainees are performing operations without direct supervision. Of course some are. Trainees vary in experience from recently qualified doctors to those about to become consultants, after at least eight years' training.

This college has statutory responsibility to ensure that surgeons are properly trained. Supervision of their training is an important part of the ever burgeoning workload of consultant surgeons. More consultants are urgently needed, but until such time as the Government is prepared to invest in them the balance between service needs and training will continue to cause strain in the NHS.

Apart from training needs, many operations are of necessity performed by trainees whose training and experience, as judged by their trainers, fits them for the task. The ultimate responsibility for a patient's care rests with the consultant, who will either assist or be readily available, depending on the complexity of the operation.

Patients should benefit from this and there is no reason whatsoever why they should be at risk. I don't think the small sample reported by Professor Wilson indicates otherwise. We already monitor our trainees' operative experience but we will, of course, investigate her findings thoroughly.

Yours faithfully,
RODNEY SWEETNAM,
President,
The Royal College of
Surgeons of England,
35-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, WC2.
June 20.

Staying at home

From Mrs Miriam Richardson

Sir, The Chairman of the Association of Catholic Women, Josephine Robinson (letter, June 18), must be out of touch with the mothers she supports if she really thinks that the full-time mother of children aged under three "writes a novel" or "studies for a qualification" while her (apparently unprotesting) offspring gaze on.

The only mothers who can consider following these types of pursuits are those relying on the type of daycare she deplores.

Since, however, genuine full-time mothers are a good deal more constrained, and every bit as valuable as she suggests, they all the more deserve the government support for which Josephine Robinson and her organisation rightly campaign.

Yours sincerely,
MIRIAM RICHARDSON,
3 Butlers Close,
Amersham, Buckinghamshire.
June 18.

Media 'freebies'

From Mr Ian Rutter

Sir, Your report on the wide assortment of "freebies" given to the media at international events ("Brollies and gold watches sweeten task of the press", June 18) reminded me of my *trip to the 1984 Sarajevo winter Olympics.*

I was one of a four-man BBC TV outside broadcasts team sent to cover the British interest in the games: this was when Torvill and Dean won their gold medal. We worked the usual television hours of 8.30am to midnight every day. The "freebies" in our press pack were two small booklets, *The Folk Art of Bosnia and Hercegovina* and *Sarajevo, a Walkers' Guide.*

What was lacking in gifts was more than made up by the city's hospitality and immense pride in hosting the Olympics.

Yours sincerely,
IAN RUTTER,
Riverwood Heights, Gibraltar Lane,
Cookham Dean, Berkshire.

letters@the-times.co.uk

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Some are more equal than others

From Sir Mervyn Brown

Sir, There are respectable arguments for abolishing hereditary seats in the House of Lords, but it is a mistake to invoke the example of France as an egalitarian society where everyone, even the President of the Republic, is addressed as "Monsieur" or "Madame" (Mr John M. Calabrini's letter today).

The French no longer have peerages and knighthoods, but they have great respect for individual titles denoting position or occupation: no one would dream of addressing Monsieur Chirac as anything other than "Monsieur le Président".

Similarly ministers, secretaries of state, ambassadors, senators, deputies and mayors are invariably addressed as such, even when they no longer occupy these positions. A senior civil servant is "Monsieur (or Madame) le directeur", a headmaster "M l'instituteur" and a teacher "M le professeur". Even a postman might be "M le facteur".

My rule when first meeting a Frenchman of some apparent distinction whom I do not know is to address him as "Monsieur le président" in the confident belief that he will be president of something — a company, an association, a golf or tennis club — and will like so to be addressed.

The wish to have one's achievements publicly recognised is entirely natural and an important motivating force (one of the arguments for retaining knighthoods). Even in the democratic US presidents, secretaries of state, senators, congressmen, governors and ambassadors are always addressed as such and, as in France, continue to be so addressed in retirement.

In this country functional forms of address are limited to doctors (medical and academic), university professors, judges and the Armed Forces and police. Without knighthoods company chairmen, senior civil servants, ambassadors and Members of Parliament would be plain "Mister" or "Ms". If we could adopt the French practice then the need and the desire for knighthoods and peerages would substantially diminish.

Yours sincerely,
MERVYN BROWN,
195 Queen's Gate, SW7.
June 18.

From Mr Douglas Finney

Sir, I was recently invited to lunch by the chairman of a French regional bank, who was greeted by the head waiter: *"Bonjour, M le président"*.

I am required by protocol to address my French aunt by marriage as *"Ma tante"* (as in *"Bonjour, ma tante"*) — specifically not as *"Madame"*.

And then, there is the insidious *tutoiement* among the elites. An insignificant 25-year-old employee may, if not must, *tutoyer* a crusty senior from the same *grande école*, to distinguish themselves from the masses.

I love it; but here in Britain let's stick to our own nonsense.

Yours faithfully,
DOUGLAS FINNEY,
34 Bolingbroke Grove, SW11.
June 18.

From Mr Sandy Skinner

Sir, I'm surprised that Mr Calabrini links formal dress with forms of address.

I believe that the Duke of Wellington called his soldiers "Sir", and they called him the same. I continue to find this a simple and courteous address.

Respectfully, Sir,
SANDY SKINNER,
6 Ruston Mews, W11.
June 18.

Run out

From Mr Chris Larlham.

Sir, My learned friend Mr Daniel Lightman (letter, June 17), whom I have known since he was "nobbut a lad", *should take a leaf from the book* of his father, Mr Justice Lightman, and read his papers more carefully before writing to correct your columnist, William Rees-Mogg (June 12).

Nowhere in his article did the latter refer to runs scored in Test matches; in all first-class cricket, Mr Geoffrey Boycott scored 48,426 runs at an average of 56.83, whereas Mr David Gower's achievements were rather more modest: 26,339 at 40.08.

Yours faithfully,
C. LARLHAM,
Apple Cottage, Anso Corner,
Hempstead, Saffron Walden, Essex.
cl@cmck.com

Sales patter

From Mr Laurence P. Rowley

Sir, I agree that "There you go", "There you are", "Have a nice day" are all meaningless remarks (letters, June 13, 17); but they are considerably more acceptable than the parting phrase of the young lady who phoned me recently to sound out my interest in having double-glazed windows.

After my telling her three times that I did not need any she called me a "prat" and hung up.

Yours faithfully,
LAURENCE P. ROWLEY,
12 Red Hall Green,
Leeds, West Yorkshire.
June 17.

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
June 20: The Prime Minister of Australia was received by The Queen this morning.

Afterwards Mr and Mrs Howard remained to Luncheon with Her Majesty.

The Queen honoured Ascot Races with her presence today.

Her Majesty was represented by The Duke of Kent at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine which was held in St Margaret's Church Westminster Abbey, London SW1, this afternoon.

The Duke of Edinburgh was represented by Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogilvy.

The Duke of York was represented by Mr Alastair Bruce.

The Prince Edward was represented by Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer.

The Princess Royal was represented by Mrs Colin Goodwille.

Mr Eric Milligan (the Rt Hon the Lord Provost, Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of the City of Edinburgh) was present at Edinburgh Airport this evening upon the Departure of The President of the Republic of the Philippines and Mrs Fidel Ramos and bade them farewell on behalf of The Queen.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 20: The Princess Royal today took the Salute at the Grand Day Parade at Queen Victoria School, Dunblane, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Stirling and Falkirk (Colonel James Stirling of Garden).

CLARENCE HOUSE
June 20: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother was represented by The Prince of Wales at the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine which was held in St Margaret's Church Westminster Abbey this afternoon.

ST JAMES'S PALACE
June 20: The Prince of Wales this morning received the Rt Hon Chris Smith (Secretary of State for National Heritage).

His Royal Highness this evening attended a Dinner at Old Battersea House, London SW11, for the International Patrons of The Prince of Wales's Foundation for Architecture.

KENSINGTON PALACE
June 20: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon attended the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine which was held in St Margaret's Church Westminster Abbey, London SW1, this afternoon.

June 20: The Duke of Gloucester attended the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine which was held in St Margaret's Church Westminster Abbey, London SW1, this afternoon.

YORK HOUSE
June 20: The Duchess of Kent attended the Service of Thanksgiving for the Life of Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine which was held in St Margaret's Church Westminster Abbey, London SW1, this afternoon.

Royal engagements

TODAY: The Duke of Gloucester will open the new permanent classroom at Delabole Primary School, Delabole, at 11.40. Later, as Grand Prior, the Order of St John, he will attend the 75th anniversary celebrations of the St John Cadets and the 10th anniversary celebrations of the St John Badgers at Trewithen, Grampound, Cornwall at 1.10.

TOMORROW: The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron, the Caravan Club, will visit the Sandringham Estate Caravan Club site at Sandringham at 11.30.

The Duke of Gloucester, as Patron, Normandy Veterans Association, accompanied by the Duchess of Gloucester, will attend the annual parade and service on Horse Guards 2.10 and lay a wreath at the Cenotaph, Whitehall.

Memorial service

Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine

The Queen was represented by the Duke of Kent, the Duke of Edinburgh by Princess Alexandra, and Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother by the Prince of Wales at a service of thanksgiving for the life and work of Princess Margaret of Hesse and the Rhine held yesterday in St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey.

The Duke of York was represented by Mr Alastair Bruce, Prince Edward by Lieutenant-Colonel Sean O'Dwyer and the Princess Royal by Mrs Colin Goodwille.

Princess Margaret, the Duke of Gloucester, the Duchess of Kent, the Earl of St Andrews and Prince Michael of Kent were present.

Canon Donald Gray, Rector of St Margaret's, officiated, assisted by the Rev Desmond Tillyer and the Rev Anthony Moore. The Duke of Kent read the lesson and the Hon Sir Steven Runciman, CH, FBA, cousin, read from the works of William Wordsworth. Lord Menuhin, OM and Lord Geddes gave addresses.

Mr Julian Bream played from the *Lute Suite in E minor* by Bach. The Rev Roger Holloway, Priest Vicar, was robed and in the Sanctuary. Crown Princess Sarvath el Hassan of Jordan attended. Among others present were:

The Landgraf of Hesse, Prince Donatus of Hesse, Lady Geddes, Captain the Hon James Geddes, Mr and Mrs Hugh Geddes, Mr Luke Geddes, Mr Sam Geddes, Mr and Mrs Hugh Devlin, Thomas Devlin, James Devlin, Patrick Devlin, Miss Camilla Geddes, Mr Stephen Geddes, Judge and Mrs Andrew Geddes, Mr Nicholas Geddes, Mr Dominic Geddes, Mr Leo Geddes, Miss Kitty Geddes, Mr and the Hon Mrs R E Q van Koetsveld, Mr Guy van Koetsveld, Mr Michael van Koetsveld.

Dr Jane Watt, Mr and Mrs Christopher Verity, Mr Richard Verity, the Hon Mrs M K Geddes, Mrs Otto von Simson, the Hon Mrs David C Geddes, the Hon Mrs John Geddes, Princess Irina of Hesse, Lady (Donald) Anderson, Count and Countess Bernstorff, Lady Katherine Bligh, Mr and Mrs Paul Burnand, Mr and Mrs William Carlow, Mr Charles Carlow, Mr Rob Carlow, Mr and Mrs J H R Carver, Miss A A Carver.

Mrs I Chalmers-Watson, Mr and Mrs M Chalmers-Watson, Dr Julia Chalmers-Watson, Dr Teresa Chalmers-Watson, Dr C E Chalmers-Watson, Mr and Mrs Keith Chalmers-Watson, Nicola Chalmers-Watson, Alisa Chalmers-Watson, Fiona Chalmers-Watson, Mr and Mrs A J Clarke, the Earl and Countess of Darnley, Lord Clifton of Rathmore, Mr and Mrs F Geddes, Mr Tony Geddes, Mrs Keith Geddes, Miss Katie Geddes, Miss Serena Geddes, Mr Marcus Geddes, Mr Piers Geddes, Mr and Mrs R Geddes, Mr Colin Goodwille, Miss Janna Goodwille, Mr Campbell Goodwille.

Mr and Mr David Kelly, Miss Tabitha Kelly, Miss Lucy Anna Kelly, Miss Jemima Kelly, Mr Peter Lawson, Sir Reay Geddes, Mr and Mrs Richard Johnson, Mr and Mrs Julian Knight, Mrs Michael Lloyd, Mr Matthew Lloyd, Mrs Robert Onslow, Professor and Mrs David Ritchie, Miss Rachel Huggins, Mr and Mrs James Verschoyle, Mr and Mrs John Williams, Mr and Mrs M P Wyndham, Mr and Mrs Dermott Kydd, Mr Desmond de Silva, QC, and Princess Katarina of Yugoslavia, Professor and Mrs Duncan Geddes, Mr and Mrs Hugh Halcro Johnston, Mr James Halcro Johnston.

Princess Ludwig of Sayn-Wittgenstein-Sayn, Prince Friedrich Karl von Preussen, Princess Margarita of Baden, the Margravine of Baden, Count Hans Coudenhove-Kalergi, Comte Jean de Pomereu, Vicomte Dréville du Frênes, Princess Tatiana of Hesse, Princess Cecile of Hohenlohe, Princess Xenia of Hohenlohe. Elisabeth Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach was represented by Mr R A Hopkins.

The Earl and Countess of Cranbrook, the Dowager Countess of Cranbrook, the Countess of Lichfield, Maria Carmela Viscountess Hambleden, Lady Rupert Nevill, Lady Menuhin.

Baroness Ryder of Warsaw, Lord Sudeley, Lady (Ralph) Gibson, Lady Elizabeth Basset, the Hon Gerard and Mrs Noel, the Hon Michael Tollemache, the Hon Mrs Sarah Baring.

Sir Hardy Amies, Sir Nicholas Henderson, Sir Ian Hunter, Sir Christopher and Lady Mallaby, Lieutenant-Colonel Sir John Miller, Lady Penn, Sir Frank Roberts, Sir Oliver and Lady Wright, Sir Julian and Lady Bullard, Lady (Andrew) Burns, Sir Oliver Chesterton, Sir Duncan Oppenheim, Lady (Eugene) Melville, Mr and the Hon Mrs H Roberts.

Mr Philip Bailey, Miss Jacinta Beggs, Mr H C F Bowring, Mr and Mrs Peter Bowring, Miss Maureen Breen, the Rev Steven Brookes, Dr Annabel Brooks, Mr Harold Brown, Mr John Cheetham, Mr Vernon Russell-Smith, Mr Peter Saunders, Mr George St J N C Sayn, Mr and Mrs Hugo Vickers, Mr and Mrs R M L Webb, Mr Anthony Woodd, Mr Philip Ziegler, Mr Osian Ellis, Miss Serena Fass, Mr Paolo Ferranti, the Rev Michael Anderson, Miss Kate Andrews, Mrs Brooke Astor, Miss Janet Anderson.

Graefin Clarissa Hagen Plettenberg, Professor Charles Handy, FRS, and Mrs Handy, Mrs Drue Heinz, Mrs A N Howlett, Mr and Mrs John Hutson, Mr Michael Kenny, Mrs Derek Lawson, Miss Alison Leggatt, Miss Tiggy Legge-Bourke, Mr and Mrs David Malcolm, Mr George Malcolm, Jamie Menuhin-Benthall, Mr John Owen, Mr Neil Petersen, Mrs Robin Porteous, Mr Mario Pozzati-Tiepolo, Mrs Amanda Radice, Mr J Richardson, Mr Kenneth Rose.

Mr John Mucha (Mucha Foundation), Mr Christopher Howes (Second Crown Estate Commissioner) and Mrs Howes, Mr D D Fullarton (Lambeth Palace Library Trustees), Mr Ian Watt (Royalist Association), Mr Donald Foreman (Monarchist League), Mr David Williamson (*Debrett's*) and many other friends.

Weekend birthdays

Prince William is 15 today.

TODAY:
Mr J.C. Bamford, founder J.C. Bamford Excavators, 81; Miss Benazir Bhutto, former Prime Minister of Pakistan, 44; Mr Don Black, lyricist, 59; Mr J.D. Bolsover, chairman and chief executive, Baring Asset Management, 50; Mr Clive Brooke, trade unionist, 55; Mr Christopher Brown, former director and chief executive, NSPCC, 59; Professor Anna Davies, FBA, philologist, 60; Mr Ray Davies, rock singer, 53; Mr John Edrich, former cricketer, 60; Mr Wally Fawkes, cartoonist, 73; Miss Kate Hoey, MP, 51; Sir Bernard Ingham, former chief press secretary to the Prime Minister, 1979-90, 65; Mr Gerald Kaufman, MP, 67; Professor Patricia Lindop, radiobiologist, 67; Mr Ian McEwan, novelist, 49; Sir Michael McWilliam, former director, School of Oriental and African Studies, 64; Sir Michael Marshall, former MP, 67; Mr Peter Marshall, former Commissioner, City of London Police, 67; Sir John Morgan, diplomat, 68; Sir Edwin Nixon, former chairman, IBM UK Holdings, 72; Mr R.C. Poulton, former Head Master, Christ's Hospital, Horsham, 59; Mr Malcolm Rifkind, QC, and former MP, 51; Sir Hugh Rossi, former MP, 70; Miss Jane Russell, actress, 76; Lord Saatchi, 51; Miss Françoise Sagan, author, 62; Lord Sinclair, 83; Sir Moray Stewart, civil servant, 59; Mr Maurice Warren, former chairman, Dalgety, 64.

TOMORROW:
Sir Hugh Annesley, former Chief Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary, 58; Mr Jack Bailey, former secretary, MCC, 67; Sir Christopher Booth, gastroenterologist, 73; Lieutenant-General Sir Robin Carnegie, 71; Mr D.H.B. Chesshyre, herald, 57; Mr Gary Connolly, rugby league player, 26; Mr A.P. de Boer, former chairman, British Road Federation, 79; Field Marshal Sir Roland Gibbs, former Lord-Lieutenant of Wiltshire, 76; Mr G.S. Hill, solicitor, 70; Professor Sheila Hollins, Professor of the Psychiatry of Mental Handicapped, 51; Mr Ian Howe, former chairman, Kwik Save Group, 57; Lord Hunt, KG, leader British expedition to Mount Everest in 1952, 87; Professor D.A. Low, former President, Clare Hall, Cambridge, 70; Mr R.J. Montague, founder, Tiphook, 49; Mr Gordon Oakes, former MP, 66; Mr David Owen, former Chief Constable, North Wales, 66; Miss Esther Rantzen, broadcaster, 57; Dame Cicely Saunders, OM, founder St Christopher's Hospice, Sydenham, 79; Mr Alastair Stewart, broadcaster, 45; Miss Meryl Streep, actress, 48; Lord Wakeham, 65; Mr Billy Wilder, film director, 91; Miss Diana Young, jockey, 41.

Bruce Kent, nuclear disarmament campaigner, will be 68 tomorrow; Prunella Scales, the actress, will be 65

School news

South Hampstead High School GPDST
The South Hampstead Old Girls Association is having its 110th anniversary dinner on July 10, 1997, at 7.30pm, at the school. For details please call the school on 0171 435 2899 by June 27.

Orley Farm School
Old Boys' Day at Orley Farm School will be held on Sunday, July 6. RSVP: Headmaster's Office or call 0181 422 1525.

Luncheon

Zaiwalla & Co Solicitors
Mr Sarosh Zaiwalla, Senior Partner of Zaiwalla & Co Solicitors, 33 Chancery Lane, London, gave a luncheon on Wednesday, June 18, at the Savoy Hotel, in honour of Mr Ma Zhengang Ambassador of China and to welcome him to the United Kingdom.

Anniversaries

TODAY
BIRTHS: Sir Richard Wallace, collector of works of art, London, 1818; Pier Luigi Nervi, engineer and architect, Sondrino, Italy, 1891; Jean-Paul Sartre, Existentialist, Paris, 1905; Mary McCarthy, novelist, Seattle, Washington, 1912.

DEATHS: King Edward III, reigned 1327-77, Sheen, Surrey, 1377; Niccolo Machiavelli, statesman and writer, Florence, 1527; John Smith, colonised Virginia, London, 1631; Inigo Jones, architect, London, 1652; Mary Ann Clarke, adventuress, Boulogne, 1852; Friedrich Froebel, educational reformer, Marienthal, Kansas, 1852; Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov, composer, Lyubensk, Russia, 1908; Maureen Connolly (Little Mo), Wimbledon singles champion (1952, 1953 and 1954), Dallas, Texas, 1969; Ahmed Sukarno, President of Indonesia 1949-67, Djakarta, 1970.

The foundation stone of the new St Paul's Cathedral was laid, 1675.

The Constitution of the United States came into force, 1788.

The Irish rebellion ended with the defeat of the rebels by Lord Lake, 1798.

The Royal College of Surgeons was founded, 1843.

The German fleet was scuttled at Scapa Flow, 1919.

TOMORROW
BIRTHS: George Vancouver, explorer, King's Lynn, Norfolk, 1757; Karl von Humboldt, statesman and philologist, Potsdam, 1767; Guiseppe Mazzini, Italian patriot, Genoa, 1805; Sir Rider Haggard, novelist, West Bradenham Hall, Norfolk, 1856; James Maxton, chairman of the Independent Labour Party 1926-31 and 1934-39, Glasgow, 1885; Sir Julian Huxley, biologist, London, 1887; Erich Remarque, novelist, Osnabruck, Germany, 1898; Sir Peter Pears, tenor, Farnham, Surrey, 1910.

DEATHS: St John Fisher, bishop, executed, London, 1535; Catharine Macaulay, historian, Binfield, Berkshire, 1791; Sir Henry Wilson, field marshal, assassinated by Sinn Feiners, London, 1922; Walter De La Mare, poet and novelist, Twickenham, Middlesex, 1956; *Judy Garland, singer and actress*, London, 1969; Darius Milhaud, composer, Geneva, 1974; Fred Astaire, dancer and actor, Los Angeles, 1987.

The MCC and Hertfordshire played the first match at Lord's cricket ground, 1814.

The Wallace Collection opened, London, 1900.

Service dinners

HMS Collingwood
Rear-Admiral John Trewby, Chief Naval Engineer Officer, was the guest of honour at the *HMS Collingwood* annual dinner held last night in the Wardroom Mess. Commodore John Chadwick presided.

Durham Light Infantry
General Sir Peter and Lady de la Billière attended the 120th annual dinner of the Durham Light Infantry held last night at the Army and Navy Club. Lieutenant-Colonel J.H. Jacob presided.

Pathfinders
Air Chief Marshal Sir John Allison was the principal speaker at a Pathfinder dinner held last night at RAF Wyton to mark the station's connection with the Pathfinders. Wing Commander P.D.G. Milloy presided. Mrs Ly Bennett also spoke. Members of the Pathfinder Association were the guests of honour.

Dinners

Army Board
General Sir Roger Wheeler, Chief of the General Staff, was the host at a dinner given by the Army Board last night at the Royal Hospital Chelsea to meet General Dennis Reimer, Chief of Staff United States Army. Among those present were:
Lady Wheeler, Lord Mayhew of Twysden, QC, and Lady Mayhew, General Sir Alex and Lady Harley, General Sir Michael and Lady Walker, Lieutenant-General Sir Sam and Lady Cowan, Lieutenant-General Sir Robert and Lady Hayman-Joyce, Sir Andrew and Lady Burns, Mr and Mrs Roger Jackling, Major-General Mike Willcocks, Brigadier and Mrs Dick Baly, Colonel and Mrs Hank Allen, Colonel Richard Dunn, Mr and Mrs Colin Budd and Mr and Mrs John Richardson.

Shrivenham Club
Major-General A.S.H. Irwin, Commandant of the Royal Military College, Shrivenham, presided at the annual symposium and dinner of the Shrivenham Club held last night at the college. Professor H. Strachan was the principal guest.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr C. Blair and Miss C.A. Sims
The engagement is announced between Crawford, younger son of Mrs Betty Blair and the late Mr Bertie Blair, of Tullyhogue, Cookstown, Northern Ireland, and Caroline, daughter of Mr Howard Sims, of Longburgh, Carlisle, and Mrs Jane Hirst, of Carlisle.

Mr J.W.A. de Graaff and Miss E.L.A. Shanagher
The engagement is announced between Jeroen, son of Mr and Mrs Willibrordus de Graaff, of Rotterdam, Holland, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Shanagher, of Chelsea, London.

Mr S.A. Luard and Miss E.P. Hanbury
The engagement is announced between Scott Anthony, second son of Mr Patrick Luard, of Wisborough Green, West Sussex, and the late Mrs Mary Patrick, of Farnham, Surrey, and Emma Priscilla, second daughter of Major and Mrs Christopher Hanbury, of Hungerford, Berkshire.

Mr T.M. Rogers and Miss L.D. Carey
The engagement is announced between Thomas, eldest son of Mr T.M. Rogers, Jnr, and the late Mrs Judith Rogers, of Enid, Oklahoma, and Laura, elder daughter of Mr R.K.O. Carey, of Putney, and Mrs Catherine Allen, of the Watergate, Washington DC.

Marriage

Mr J.A. Davis and Miss L.A. Locke
The marriage took place on Saturday, June 14, at St Mary's Church, Calne, between John, son of Jack and Gwen Davis, of Calne, Wiltshire, and Lindsey, daughter of Alastair and Elizabeth Locke, of Mortimer, Berkshire.

Masons' Company

The following have been elected officers for the ensuing year: Master, Mr Patrick Alexander Copland; Upper Warden, Mr Neil Richard Barnes; Renter Warden, Mr Basil James Rushton; Deputy Master, Mr Barry Murray Woodman.

Church services tomorrow

Fourth Sunday after Trinity

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, ABERDEEN: 8 HC; 10.15 S Euch, Mass for four voices (Byrd), The Provost; 6.30 E, The Bishop.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 M, O thou the central orb (Wood), The Dean; 3.15 Choral E, Stanford in C, O Lorde the Maker (Joubert).

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC; 11 S Euch, Darke in F, They that go down to the sea (Sumsion); 3.30 Ch E, Responses (Rose), Murrill in E, I saw the Lord (Stainer).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP; 9.15 HC; 11 Ch Euch, Mass for five voices (Byrd), Beati quorum via (Stanford), Rev P Seddon; 4 Ch E, Stanford II & III, Greater love hath no man (Ireland).

BLACKBURN CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 Ch M, Deep River (Saunders), Canon Hindley; 10.30 Euch, Missa brevis in D (Mozart), The Provost; 4 Ch E, For lo, I raise up (Stanford), Canon Hindley.

BRECON CATHEDRAL: 11 Euch, Wood in C minor, Canon B Jones; 3.30 E, the True Glory (Aston), the Eighth Service (Weelkes).

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL, College Green: 7.40 M; 8 HC; 10 Euch; 3.30 Ch E, Responses (Smith), Noble in B minor, Canon A Redfern.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.30 M; 11 S Euch, Ave verum (Mozart), The Dean; 3.15 E, Responses (Holmes), My beloved spake (Tomkins); 6.30 Compline.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 10.30 S Euch, O quam gloriosum (Victoria), Fidelis (Whitlock), Archdeacon D Turnbull; 3 E, Responses (Byrd), Nicholson in D flat.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 9.30 Euch, Rev Ivor Moody; 6 Ch E, Responses (Leighton), Darke in F, The Vice Provost.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8 HC; 11 Euch, At the peace (Rutter), Sister E Margaret; 3.30 EP.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Harwood in A flat, Canon D Landreth; 11 S Euch, Mass (Albright), Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), The Dean; 3.30 E, Second Service (Gibbons).

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC; 10 M, Jubilate (Walton), Canon O'Donovan; 11.15 S Euch, Mass for double choir (Martin), Canon Jeffrey; 6 E, Ninth Service (Weelkes), O Lord, grant the King a long life (Weelkes).

COVENTRY CATHEDRAL: 7.40 MP; 10.30 Euch, Darke in E, If you love me (Tallis), Rev J Petty; 55 E, Responses (Reading), Harwood in A flat.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 M, Festival Te Deum (Britten), Jubilate Deo (Walton), Rev M Parker; 11.15 HC, Mass in five parts (Byrd), Canon M Perry; 3.30 E, Collegium Regale (Wood), Thou, O God, art praised in Sion (Grier).

ELY CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Mass in G (Mozart), Rev Dr M Percy; 3.45 E, Stanford in C, The Twelve (Walton).

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Oculi omnium (Wood), Missa brevis (Caesar), The Dean; 11.15 M, Responses (Morley), My soul, there is a country (Parry), Canon A Mawson; 3 E, Responses (Morley), Jubilate Deo (Britten); 6.30 ES, The King shall rejoice (Handel), Rev J Rawlings.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.15 Euch, Missa brevis (Berkeley), The Dean; 3 E, Cantate Domino (Pitoni), They that go down to the sea in ships (Sumsion).

GUILDFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa surge propera (Victoria), Ave verum (Elgar), The Dean; 11.15 M, Responses (Moore), Jubilate in C (Britten), Rev J Gordon Clark; 6.30 E, Walmsley in D minor, Rev Prof D Martin.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Teach me O Lord (Attwood), Missa brevis (Gowland), The Dean; 11.30 M, Te Deum in E (Britten), This have I done (Holst); 3.30 E, Wood in F, Light out of darkness (Elgar), Rev P Towner.

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 Royal Tigers' Association Annual Service, Britten in C, Rejoice in the Lord alway (Anon), Rev T Hiney; 4 Choral E, Wood in E flat, Jesu, joy of man's desiring (Bach), The Provost.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Jubilate (Greening), O taste and see (Williams), Canon John Howe; 3.30 E, Responses (Clucas), Wood in F.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L; 8, 12.30 HC; 9.30 S Euch, Missa brevis in D (Mozart), The Subdean; 11.15 M, Collegium regale (Howells), O thou, the central orb (Wood); 3.45 E, How lovely are the messengers (Mendelssohn), Rev P Godden.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 10.30 Euch, Canon M Wolfe; 3 Ch E, Canon M Boyling; 4 HC.

LLANDAFF CATHEDRAL: 7.30 M & L; 8 Euch; 11 S Euch, Missa brevis in B flat (Mozart); 3.30 Ch E, Wesley in E, How beautiful upon the mountains (Stainer).

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 M; 9 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Coronation Mass (Mozart), The Dean; 6.30 EP.

NEWPORT CATHEDRAL: 8 H Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Mass for St Woolos (Williams), Like as the hart (Howells); 6.30 Ch Euch, St Woolos Service (Moore), Through the Day (Moore).

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP; 8 HC; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis (Ives), O sacrum convivium (Near), The Dean; 3.30 E, Responses (Rose), *In the time appointed* (Mathias), The Archdeacon.

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 9.30 M, Collegium Regale (Howells); 10.30 Euch, Messe Solennelle (Vierne), The Precentor; 3.30 E, Stanford in C, Lord, thou hast been our refuge (Bairstow)

RIPON CATHEDRAL: 8.45 M; 9.30 Euch, Lauda Sion (Palestrina), The Dean; 11.30 Ch Euch, Canon M Glanville-Smith; 5.30 E, Harwood in A flat, Though I speak with tongues of men (Bairstow), Canon J Bell.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 M, Responses (Smith), Set me as a seal (Walton); 10.30 S Euch, Messe Solennelle (Vierne), Canon J Armson.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 Euch, Stanford in G, Ave verum corpus (Byrd), Canon J Osborne; 11.30 M, Responses (Rose), Te Deum in C (Britten), Ven N Crowder; 3 E, Responses (Tomkins), Howells in G, Canon J Davies.

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 MP; 10.30 S Euch, Missa brevis (Palestrina), Archdeacon of Doncaster; 6.30 E, Responses (Radcliffe), Dyson in D, Canon S Matthews.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch; 11 Ch Euch, Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Spatzenmesse (Mozart), Prof P Gomes; 3 Ch E, Harwood in A flat, O Lorde, the maker of al thing (Joubert).

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M & L; 8 HC; 11 S Euch, O sacrum convivium (Victoria), Missa brevis (Britten), Canon F G Green; 3.15 E, Mass for five voices (Weelkes), They that go down to the sea (Sumsion).

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9 M; 10 S Euch, Missa aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina), The Dean; 6 E, Dyson in F, Rejoice in the Lamb (Britten), The Dean.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.15 C, Miss F Lawson; 11 Euch, Missa brevis (Britten), Jubilate in C (Britten), Miss F Lawson; 6.30 E, Responses (Bielby), Te Deum (Howells), Canon R Gage.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 9.45 S Euch, Missa brevis in C (Mozart), Ave verum corpus (Mozart), Rev R Lewis; 11.30 M, Ireland in F; 3 E, Stanford in C, O clap your hands (Gibbons), Preb R G Askew.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 11 Civic Service, Hosanna to the Son of David (Gibbons), Blessed city, heavenly Salem (Bairstow), Rev J Slater; 3 E, Responses (Neary), Stanford in C, Rev Dr B Watchorn; 6.30 ES, Rev G Kent.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 10.30 M, Te Deum in G (Williams), Give us the wings of faith (Bullock), Rev C Stewart; 11.30 Euch, Mass for three voices (Byrd), Adoro Te (Messiaen); 5.30 E.

YORK MINSTER: 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Sumsion in F; 11.30 M, Dyson in D, Responses (Ayleward); 4 E, Second Service (Leighton), Lord, thou hast been (Williams), Canon Prof E Norman.

ST ALBANS CATHEDRAL, Hertfordshire: 9.30 Euch, Truly the Lord is in this place (Hurford), Ave verum corpus (Wills), Canon Ritson; 11 S Euch, Stanford in C & F, O how amiable are thy dwellings (Weelkes); 6.30 E, Responses (Clucas), Smart in B flat, Canon R Lewis.

ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL, Clwyd: 8 HC; 11 Ch M, A: Hymn for St Cecilia (Howells), Rev R Griffiths; 3.30 EP.

ST EDMUNDSBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC; 10 S Euch, Let all mortal flesh (Bairstow), Panis angelicus (Franck), Col J Elliott; 11.30 Ch C, Canon S Petitt; 3.30 Ch E, Lord who hast formed me out of mud (Pike), Responses (Clucas).

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 10 MS, Aeterna Christi munera (Palestrina); 11.30 MS, Jauchzet dem Herrn (Mendelssohn); 6 St Giles at Six; 8 ES, Rev K K Watson

ST MARY'S CATHEDRAL: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Mass in G (Schubert), Laudibus in sanctis (Byrd), The Chaplain; 3.30 Ch E, Second Service (Leighton), The Spirit of the Lord (Elgar).

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL, Old Aberdeen: 11 Rev R Frazer; 6 Rev R Frazer.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa sancti Pauli (Carter), Let all mortal flesh keep silence (Bairstow), Rev M Colclough; 3.30 E, Naylor in A, Responses (Leighton), Archdeacon of London.

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, Ennismore Gardens, London, SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy, Kievan and traditional polyphony, Met Anthony.

ALL SAINTS, Margaret Street, W1: 8 LM; 10.20 MP; 11 HM, Ireland in C, The Vicar; 6 E & B, Bairstow in D, The Vicar.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 11 Rev R Trist; 6.30 Rev Richard Bewes.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa ave Domine Jesu Christe (Monteverdi), Ave Maria (Willaert).

CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, SW3: 8 HC; 11 M, Beati quorum vir (Stanford), Rev Dr P Elvy; 12.15 HC; 6 Ch E, Rev A Gomez Carrasco.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH, Curzon St, W1: 11 Sunday School.

CROWN COURT CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Covent Garden, WC2: 11.15 Rev J McMahon; 6.30 Rev S Hood.

FARM STREET, W1: 8, 9.30, 12.30, 4.15, 6.15 LM; 11 HM.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 HC; 11 MS, Rev R Thorpe; 5 S, Prof G Fee; 7.30 S, Prof G Fee.

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass, 12.30, 4.30, 7; 3.30 V & B.

ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH, Iverna Gdns, W8: 11 Holy Mass, Archbishop Y Gizirian.

WESLEY'S CHAPEL, City Road, EC2: 9.45 HC; 11 MS, Rev M Wakelin.

WESTMINSTER CENTRAL HALL (Methodist), SW1: 11 Rev E Fletcher, 6.30 Rev Dr P Graves.

ST ANNE AND ST AGNES (Lutheran), Gresham St, EC2: 11 Ch E, Rev T Bruch; 7 Ch Vespers, B Fisher.

ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT, *Smithfield*, EC1: 9 HC; 11 M, Ireland in F, Expectans expectavi (Wood), The Rector; 6.30 E, Stanford in C, Evening Hymn (Parry), The Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Ch M & Euch, Purcell in C, Collegium Regale (Howells), Canon J Oates; 6.30 Ch E, Responses (Clucas), See what love hath the Father bestowed (Mendelssohn), Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 WAAF Association Annual Service, Te Deum in B flat (Stanford), My soul, there is a country (Parry), Rev R Noble.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Confirmations, Rev C MacLeod; 6.30 Rev W Alexander Cairns.

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, English Mass (Williams)

ST JAMES'S, Sussex Gardens, W2: 8 Euch; 10.30 S Euch, Mass (Stravinsky), Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré), Rev A Meldrum; 6 Ch E, Short Service (Causton), Christus factus est (Bruckner).

ST JAMES'S, Piccadilly: 8.30 HC; 11 S Euch, Rev H Valentine; 5.45 EP.

ST JOHN'S, Stratford E15: 11 S, Sonata No 1 (Mendelssohn), Rev M Okello; 6.30 HC, Rev D Richards.

ST LUKE'S, Chelsea, SW3: 8 HC; 10.30 HC; 6.30 E, O Lord the maker (Mundy), Rev C Kevill-Davies.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC; 11 S Euch, Missa in honorem Sancti Josephi (Peeters), O Jesu Christ, Mein Lebens Licht (Bach), Rev T Devonshire Jones.

ST MARGARET'S, Westminster, SW1: 10 M; 11.15 Euch, Rev Dr Donald Gray.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC; 9.45 Euch; 5 Ch E; 6.30 ES, The Vicar.

ST MARY'S, Bourne Street, SW1: 9, 10, 7 LM; 11 HM, Missa Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina), Fr M Hislop; 6 E & B.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC; 10.30 Euch, Missa brevis (Berkeley), Rev G Long; 5.30 EP.

ST MARYLEBONE, Marylebone Road, W1: 8 HC; 11 Ch E, Missa Sancti Nicolai (Mussorgsky), Rev J Caldwell.

ST PAUL'S, Wilton Place, SW1: 8 HC; 9 HC; 11 Euch, Messe Basse (Fauré), The Lord is my shepherd (Schubert), Rev A Henderson.

ST PETER'S, Eaton Square, SW1: 8.15 HC; 11 S Euch, Mass for five voices (Berkeley), Cantique de Jean Racine (Fauré), Fr D B Tillyer.

ST SIMON ZELOTES, Milner St, SW3: 8 HC; 11 M, Jubilate (Weelkes), This is the record of John (Gibbons); 6.30 E, Preb McGowan.

CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA, HM Tower of London: 9.15 HC; 11 M, Responses (Smith), Te Deum (Tallis), Rev R Ralkes.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Praise our Lord, all ye Gentiles (Byrd), Canon I C Knox.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC; 11 M, Dyson in D, O for a closer walk with God (Stanford); 3.30 E, Lo, the full, final sacrifice (Finzi).

QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY, WC2: 11 S Euch, Darke in F, Rev R Ballard.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP, Responses (Ayleward), Te Deum in E (Gray), Rev L F P Gunner.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M, Ave Maria (Anon), Laetatus sum (Haydn), Rev L H Bryan.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch, Five part Mass (Byrd), Rev Clive French.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
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PERSONAL COLUMN

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FAX: 0171 481 9313

We have reason to thank God continually because, when we handed on God's message, you accepted it, not as the word of men, but as what it truly is, the very word of God. 1 Thessalonians 2 : 13

BIRTHS

BAINS - On June 13th in Zurich, Switzerland, to Sara (née Dashwood) and Paul, a wonderful son, Edward Ellis, a playmate for Oliver.

BOKHARI - On June 18th 1997, to Sarah (née Aitken) and Zahir, a son, Alexander Ali Hassan.

COHEN - On June 16th, to Sarah (née Brennan) and Julian, a daughter, Beatrice Anne.

COURT - On 16th June, to Susan (née Knight) and Alistair, a son, Andrew James, a brother for Charlotte.

CURTIS/FREUD - Richard Curtis and Emma Freud are delighted to announce the birth of their son on the tenth of June, at Saint Mary's Hospital, Paddington - A gorgeous brother to Scarlett.

GORDON - On 17th June 1997 at Royal Surrey County Hospital, Guildford, to Una (née McGregor) and Neil, a lovely daughter, Antonia Frances, a sister for Madeleine.

JENNINGS - To Simon and Susanne, a daughter, Josephine Annelie, a sister for Alexandra and Lukas, on 9th June, 1997, in Zürich, Switzerland.

KERSHAW - On June 14th at The Portland Hospital, to Clare and David, a son, Thomas Reginald Lawrence.

KNIGHT-HASTINGS - Born on 19th June 1997 to Alison (née Taylor) and Richard, a beautiful daughter, Emily, a sister for Joshua.

BIRTHS

McAULIFFE - On 5th May 1997 at Lymington Hospital, to Kate (née Samuel) and Gerald, a daughter, Emma Patricia Grace, a sister for Thomas.

MEALING - On June 18th 1997, to Clemency and William, a daughter, Coco Alexandra, a sister for William Henry.

MIDHA - Ravindra and Kay are pleased to announce the birth of their son Owen David on 19th May 1997.

MORRIS - On June 17th, to Lolita (née Obera) and David, a daughter, Stephanie Jane.

ROSE - On June 11th 1997 at St George's Hospital, Tooting, to Lucinda (née Shepherd) and Christopher, a son, William Montague, a brother for Alexander, Persephone and Gabriella.

VANDERLIP - On June 19th, to Nashida (née Islam) and Alex, a beautiful son, Zaid.

WACE - On June 19th at The Portland Hospital, to Fiona (née Hardy) and Ian, a daughter, Claudia Alicia.

MARRIAGES

ERTÜRK:MACFARLANE - The marriage took place on Thursday, June 19th, 1997 of Felicity, daughter of Ian and Ena Macfarlane of St Martins, Guernsey and Serif, son of Mrs Gulsum Ertürk and the late Mr Hadi Ertürk of Ankara, Turkey.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

SNOW:BUTTERWORTH - On June 21st 1947 at All Saints Church, Huthwaite, Notts. Peter Samuel to Mildred. With love & congratulations from Christopher, Sue, Alexandra and Henry.

DEATHS

AMOS - E.J. (Ted) died peacefully, aged 72 years, on 18th June 1997 at St Johns Hospice, Moggerhanger. Funeral Service 2 pm on Wednesday 25th June at St Peters Church, Tempsford, followed by cremation at Norse Road Crematorium, Bedford. Family flowers only but donations for St Johns Sue Ryder Home, Moggerhanger, Bedfordshire, may be sent to A.L. & G. Abbott, Funeral Directors, 150 Bedford Road, Kempston, MK42 8BH, tel no: 01234 843222. Memorial Service at Bedford School to be arranged later.

BARNETT - Stanley George Barnett CBE DL, peacefully on 17th June at home. Dearly loved husband of Violet, father of Deirdre and Anne and grandfather of Nicola and Heidi and great-grandfather of Emma, Katie, Adam and Liam. Funeral Service at Colchester Salvation Army Citadel on Monday 30th June at 11.15am. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Salvation Army c/o Co-operative Funeral Services, 33-35 Long Wire Street, Colchester CO1 1LH.

DEATHS

CATO CARTER - On June 19th 1997, peacefully at Queensmount Nursing Home, Bournemouth, Edward Frederick, aged 89, much loved husband of Rene, dear father of Colin, Keith and Nicholas and a devoted grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral family only. Memorial Service in London later. No flowers please. Donations, if desired, for Royal Star and Garter Home may be sent to Deric-Scott, Portman Lodge Funeral Home, Bournemouth, BH7 6AN.

FRANKEL - Mervyn. On June 19th suddenly in London aged 64 loved husband to Jenny, devoted father to Johnathan, Richard, Andrew and Arrabella and grand papa to Katie, Louis and Olivia. Funeral in Jersey to be advised. A Memorial Service will be held in London.

HENLY - Robert Trelease aged 82 on 19th June at home, husband of Serena, father to Richenda and Jasper, grandfather to Rollo and Charlie. Funeral Service Thursday 26th June 2.30 pm at St Swithins, Compton Bassett. No flowers but donations to the Church Restoration Fund.

HILL-WOOD - Mary Cecilia. Widow of Denis on Friday 20th June aged 90. Much loved mother, grandmother, great grandmother and aunt. Service of Thanksgiving to be announced shortly.

McDEARMID - Reginald (Mac) 19th June in Sydney, Australia, aged 84, loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather.

NEWMAN - On 19th June peacefully at Hythe, Kent, in her 90th year, Jean (née Grant Duff), widow of the late Reverend Canon E.A. (Bobs) Newman and mother of Bridget, David, Andrew and Jenny. Funeral at St Leonard's Church, Hythe, on Wednesday 25th June at 11.30am, followed by cremation. Family flowers only.

PRUST-WALTERS - On June 19th, very suddenly at her home in Kensington. Evelyn, much loved and missed mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. All funeral enquiries to J.H. Kenyon, 49 Marloes Road, Kensington W8 6LA, tel: (0171) 937-0757.

VARNEY - John Richard, international bio-chemist, on 8th June in Sydney, Australia, as the result of a tragic accident. Sadly missed by all family and friends.

VENABLES - Gladys Ada, died Wednesday 18th June, 1997, in Jersey. Wife of the late Harold Victor Venables, mother of the late Denys Anne Gooch.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

SPENCER - Vernon Mark. A Humanist Ceremony to celebrate the life of Vernon Spencer will be held at St Marylebone Crematorium, East End Road, Finchley, London N2, at 3 pm on Thursday 26th June and afterwards at the Old Kitchen, Kenwood, Hampstead Lane, NW3. Stefanie, Natasha and Tanya invite all Vernon's and their friends to attend.

IN MEMORIAM — *PRIVATE*

ALLEN - S.C.F. In lasting memory of my beloved Sam. P.

CASSON - Margaret. To celebrate her life and work. Sadly missed, never forgotten.

PEMBERTON - Gayle Thelinda, dearly beloved 21 year old, reading chemistry at the University of Warwick, daughter of Trish and Eric, sister to Anne, Kay and John, died on 21/22 June, 1996 after a heroic 18 month fight against leukaemia and its side effects. Gayle, prepared to accept treatment, pain and the rest to enable the fruition of her 'next 60 years plans' was admired and continues to be missed by so many friends and colleagues from St Martin's School, Mid-Warwickshire College, University, (where there is a Memorial Tree), and her three 'part-time' jobs. Gayle was interred as she wished in a cardboard box at a greenfield site on a farm in Lilbourne, near Rugby.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A FOURTH WAY SCHOOL in the living tradition of Gurdjieff & Ouspensky. 0181 347 5353.

A Production company making a documentary about the 1945-1951 period are interested in hearing from people who voted Labour in 1945 but then changed to Conservative in 1951 and their reasons for doing so. All information treated in strictest confidence Please write to:-
PO Box 2188
London W1A 2WZ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AMANDA Louise Laurence, Congratulations on gaining a BSc (Hons) Business, upper 2nd class degree. With love Mother & Father, Lisa & Emma.

MV BRETAGNE restaurant 16 June Brittany ferries, would the gentleman who spoke to the lady in the black & white striped jacket, please call her: 0421 640067.

WHEELER Diane congratulations and best wishes on your graduation for a BA Hons 2:1. With love for a memorable day & successful career Helen & Nick.

WRITER wants to speak to women who have given up or lost residence of children in divorce because they work longer hours or have more high-powered careers than their ex partners. Write or phone urgently in confidence to Ms Shorten, 11 Beaufort Mansions, Beaufort St, London, SW3 5AG or tel 0171 3514347.

BIRTHDAYS

COLETTE Happy Birthday, number fourteen, much taller but try to be a little serene. Love Mum & Dad

KATHERINE Our is 10 today! all our love Mummy Daddy and Charlotte xxxx.

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LADY CONVALESCING after illness (not elderly) seeks place as paying guest in country house. Prefers Welsh Borders. Total rural quiet needed. Please Reply to Box No 5906.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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HEATHER CHILD

Heather Child, MBE, calligrapher, heraldic artist, botanical illustrator and author, died in Petersfield, Hampshire, on June 18 aged 85. She was born in Winchester on November 3, 1911.

By the quality of her analysis and research into calligraphy, heraldry and symbolism, Heather Child made a major, if little acknowledged, contribution to those crafts and to lettering in this century. Her death deprives calligraphy of a figure of authority and integrity, and the crafts of one of their last links with some of the patriarchs and ideals of William Morris's Arts and Crafts revival.

Child became keenly interested in botany as a schoolgirl, and made careful drawings of the wild flowers in the countryside around Winchester. At 16 she overcame her parents' fears and enrolled at Chelsea School of Art. There, under M. C. Oliver — an early student of Edward Johnston, the father of modern calligraphy — she developed an enduring love of letters. And at the same age she was taken to meet Thomas Hardy, whose Wessex she celebrated in 1935 in a splendid calligraphic map now to be seen in the Dorset County Museum.

She spent the war years in Dorset During the war she returned to Dorset running the blood transfusion service, and it was not until 1949 that she returned to London. She was soon working as a freelance calligrapher from a flat in the Cromwell Road which she shared with the painter Dorothy Colles in an unusually productive meeting of minds and enthusiasm. In 1956 alone, alongside many smaller commissions, she published her first books, *Decorative Maps* and the *Collins Pocket Guide to Wild Flowers*. Her later books were milestones in their fields: *Heraldic Design* (1965) was a much-needed statement of contemporary practice: *Christian Symbols* (1971), written with Dorothy Colles, was a richly illustrated study of the relationship between the pastoral symbolism of the early Church and its artistic interpretation.

Her pieces were well-balanced, purposeful and clear to the reader: unfashionable virtues. As well as her many illustrated maps, she produced the Arms of the Guilds of the City of London, and was one of the calligraphers to work on the RAF and USAF Books of Remembrance under the direction of Alfred Fairbank.

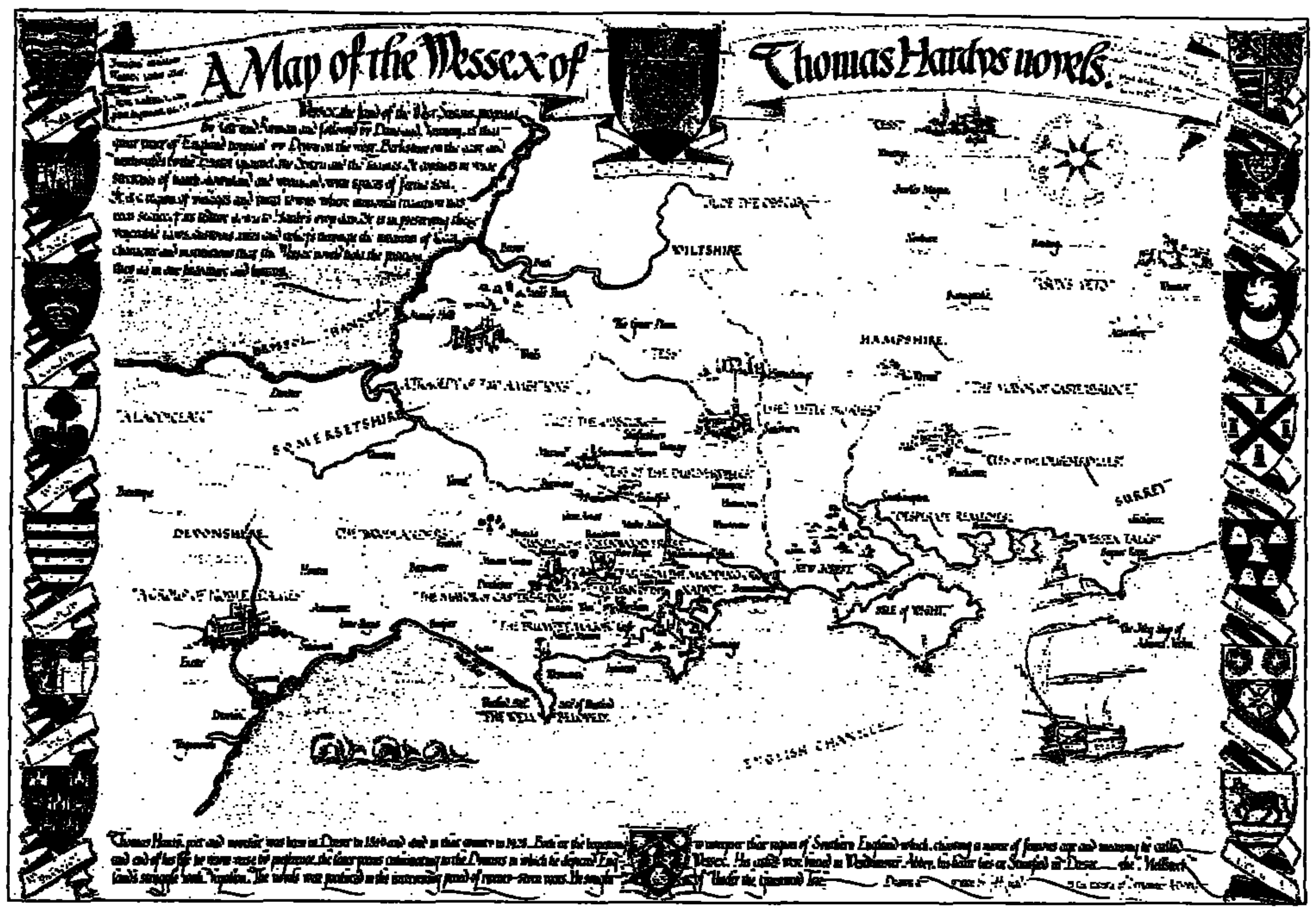
She will be best remembered, however, as editor of Edward Johnston's *Formal Penmanship*, published in 1971 and regarded as among the most important manifestos of 20th-century craftsmanship. The published text gives little indication of the difficulties of ten gruelling years with the manuscript: ironically, Johnston's dense corrections made it anything but easy to decipher.

Formal Penmanship was followed in 1986 by a further collection of Johnston's unpublished papers, *Lessons in Formal Writing*, in which she was once again able to reveal the rare quality of Johnston's thought.

Child emerged virtually unscathed from her long involvement as an astute tactician with the often destructive gatherings of craftsmen drawn together under the Federation of British Craft Societies, whose chairman she was from 1973 to 1976, and the Crafts Council, of which she was a member from 1974 to 1978. When Alfred Fairbank resigned as president of the Society of Scribes and Illuminators, Child, as chairman, took on the task of reorganisation in a difficult period, and opened up membership to an audience of enthusiastic "lay members". And when the society began to show signs of division in the 1980s, she quietly observed the situation — with a sense of *déjà vu* — and added the breakaway Calligraphy and Lettering Arts Society to the causes she supported, whilst keeping her friends in the old society and hoping for a reconciliation.

She also tried for reconciliation in her later books, which included her revised and expanded edition of *The Calligrapher's Handbook* (1985) and her third volume of *Calligraphy Today* (1988). Acknowledging the excitement of the newer school of spontaneous, "expressive" calligraphy, she went on to insist on the importance of practical legibility, which is in danger of being forgotten, and to remind people that innovation and invention have always been intrinsic to the craft. She had learnt from Edward Johnston and Stanley Morison the importance of transmitting good practice and combining it with fresh expression. Tradition has always needed the individual talent, but the individual talent needs the tradition too.

After being appointed MBE in 1975 — "for services to calligraphy and the crafts" — Child returned to Hampshire with Dorothy Colles in 1977, ostensibly to retirement. In 1980 she surprised many people by producing a very modern calligraphic panel, *The Sun in Splendour*, for the Victoria and Albert Museum's *Universal Penman* exhibition.



An early work by Heather Child, showing the locations of novels by Thomas Hardy, whom she met in his last years

In 1977 she became a trustee of the Crafts Study Centre, Bath, which became a favoured destination, along with the Ditchling Museum, for her most distinguished — perhaps unrivalled — collection of 20th-century calligraphy. She had also helped the National Art Library at the V&A to build up its excellent collection of modern German calligraphy, and she recently presented the library with a complete set of books by Villu Toots, the Estonian scribe with whom she had corresponded throughout the Cold War.

Dorothy Colles, with whom she had lived and worked since 1949, is still active as a portraitist.

Heather Child is survived by a sister, Oenone Cave.

LORD CALTHORPE

Lord Calthorpe, airline owner, writer and theatrical backer, died on May 23, aged 69. He was born on July 13, 1927.

AS AN adventure writer, under the pen-name of Peter Somerset, Lord Calthorpe was assiduous about research. To experience the rigours of a shipwreck, he once paddled out to sea after Sunday lunch (smoked salmon followed by roast beef) to spend four days adrift in the English Channel with only a little water and some chocolate for sustenance.

Another book attracted substantial advance publicity when he declared that he was setting it in a brothel, and that he would collect his material *in situ* — reportedly with the approval of his first wife. For better or worse, however, the book did not appear.

Born Peter Waldo Somerset Gough-Calthorpe, he was the younger son of Frederick Gough-Calthorpe, heir to the eighth baron. But his father died young and Peter's elder brother — who became the ninth baron — was killed in 1945 in a flying accident while serving as an officer in the RAF, Peter therefore succeeded him, at the age of 18, as the 10th Lord Calthorpe.

The peerage had been created in the 18th century for political services. The family, whose motto was "The Same Way by Different Steps", once owned land in several parts of the country, but the title and much of their money are said to have been separated earlier this century.

Peter Gough-Calthorpe went to Stowe and later took a three-year commission in the Welsh Guards. On leaving the Army he learnt to fly, and fell in love with aviation. After earning his commercial pilot's licence, he gained experience with an air charter firm in Liverpool.

From there he moved to Aer Lingus in Dublin, where he lived for much of the time on a yacht and was known to most of his colleagues as "Pete Calthorpe". He left in 1960 to found Mercury Airlines. His small fleet operated between Manchester Airport and several internal destinations for four years.

Short of capital, he then sold out to British Midland, and embarked on a new career as a popular novelist, subsequently living in Jersey and the Isle of Man. he applied himself to his typewriter with zest, starting work at around 5 am and continuing until late at night — although he averaged only 600 words a day.

His first adventure story, *The Sea Wraith*, was a modest success, selling 5,000 copies when it appeared in 1967. There followed *A Break in The Clouds* (1968), drawing not only on his experiences in the air, but upon some diligent research among Soho's strip-clubs. He also wrote plays and poetry and, some 20 years ago, emerged as a theatrical backer in the West End.

His first wife, Saranne, whom he married in 1956, was an air hostess and former model who had been chosen by Aer Lingus as the cover girl for its pocket calendar. But the marriage was dissolved in 1971, and in 1979 he married his second wife Elizabeth, who survives him. He had no children and no heir, so the 200-year-old title died with him.

THE REV JOHN GARDINER

The Rev John Gardiner, OBE, Secretary to the Joint Intelligence Committee and priest, died on May 20 aged 79. He was born in Simla, India, on January 19, 1918.

IN A life of quite extraordinary variety, John Gardiner was at different times a Royal Marine, an intelligence officer, a priest, marriage guidance counsellor and sex therapist. He was also one of the very early TV priests.

John Kingsmill Gardiner was educated at Shrewsbury School and joined the Royal Marines in 1937. In the cruiser *Suffolk* he saw early action off Norway as the navy bombarded Stavanger aerodrome. But *Suffolk* was discovered by German dive-bombers and became a sitting target. For seven hours, Gardiner and the men in the gun turret he was commanding could only endure, as waves of Stukas attacked. The turret became a fireball after a direct hit. Gardiner was found unconscious and badly burnt. Few from the turret survived.

In April 1940, Gardiner was discharged from active duty as a result of his injuries. It always made him smile that though he was deemed mentally too fragile to command, he was seconded to military intelligence. His three children were told "Daddy works in an office", which modestly understated the secret Cabinet War Rooms under 16ft of concrete in Whitehall. He would spend long hours in the claustrophobic conditions, so cut off from the world that a wooden sign was used to tell the workers whether it was raining outside.

As secretary to the Joint Intelligence Committee under Churchill, it was his job to ensure that every scrap of intelligence was known by every member. If everything was not in order he would face the wrath of some of the highest ranking men in Allied Command, including the Prime Minister. He described Churchill as an extraordinary man who was to be avoided unless strictly necessary, and then approached as "if he were another boxer in the ring".

For his skill at running committees, Gardiner was appointed OBE. If asked what work he received it for, he would reply with his usual modesty, "Other Blokes' Efforts".

He continued to work after the Second World War, travelling to Korea as ADC to Field Marshal the Earl Alexander of Tunis, who was then, as Minister of Defence, observing the war at close quarters. While in Korea, a plane he was travelling in overshot the runway, and the accident exacerbated Gardiner's previous war injuries.

When he returned to London, he was invalided out of the service and embraced a calling he had had for many years. He had always said he wanted to be a priest. As he would say, "Back then, it was the only way a man could be a social worker and still be respected."

He applied for selection for ordination and went to Bishops' College, Cheshunt, to train for the ministry. His first and only curacy was in one of London's more deprived areas: Latimer Road, west London. He was then posted to the living of St Olave's, Woodberry Down, in north London, an estate of postwar flats.

Because of his experience working with the poor, he was asked to speak for ten minutes at a clerical conference. Elderly speakers droned on for hours each, eating into his precious time until he had just three minutes to make his point. Ignoring his script he made a furious attack on the old Church, "who, like today, have pushed out the young speakers in order to hear their own tired voices more loudly".

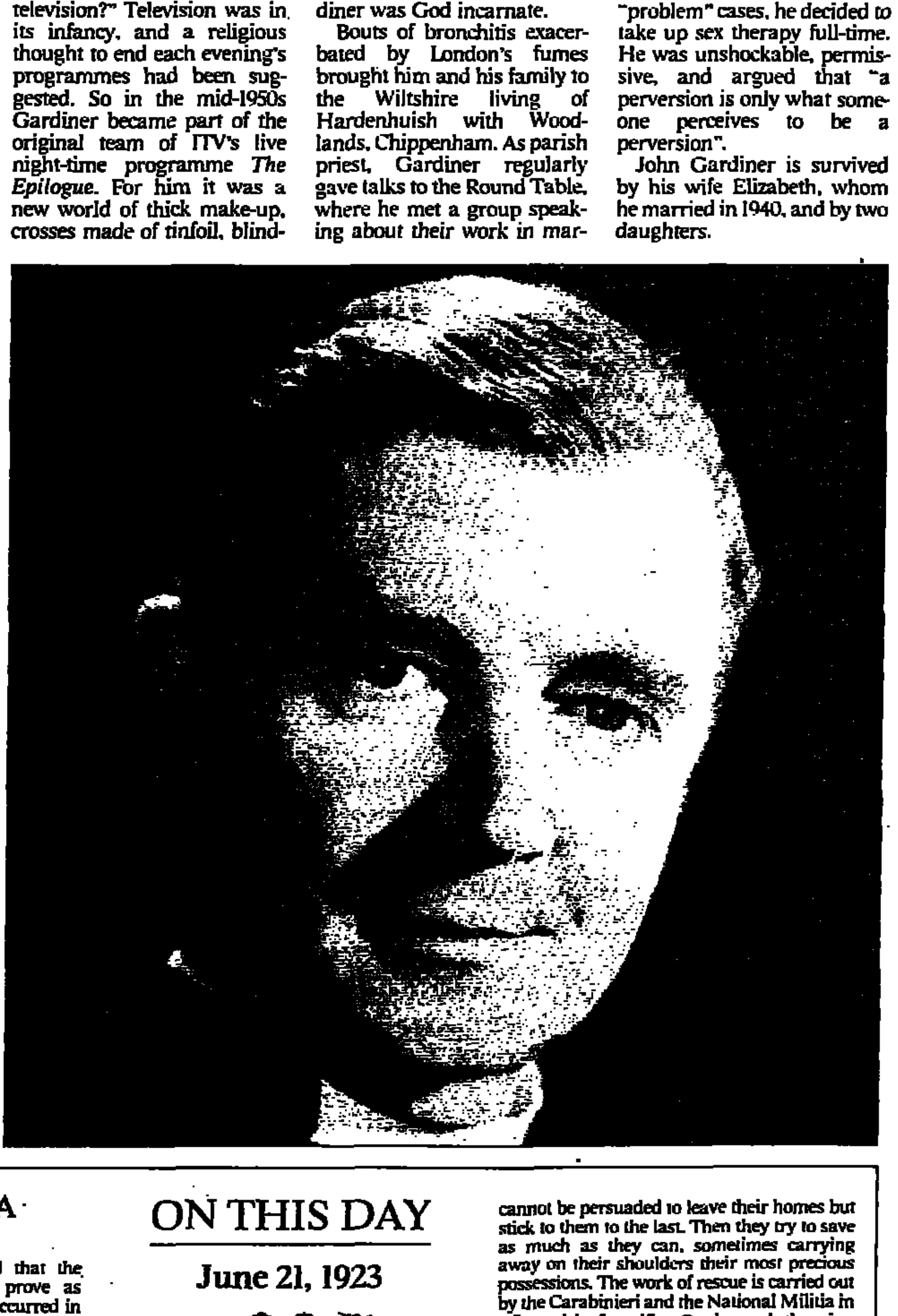
As he calmed down afterwards, a man approached him who did not have the air of a clergyman. "You certainly put your point forward well. How would you like to be on television?" Television was in its infancy, and a religious thought to end each evening's programmes had been suggested. So in the mid-1950s Gardiner became part of the original team of ITV's live night-time programme *The Epilogue*. For him it was a new world of thick make-up, crosses made of tinfoil, blinding lights and the terror of drying up in mid-speech.

To his great pleasure and embarrassment he was the first TV priest to be sent fan mail. In one sermon he explained that God's love was similar to television: millions had the chance to receive His message if only they switched on. (Such comparisons were fresh, all those years ago.) After this, his postbag included a letter from a scared lady, who was convinced that Gardiner was God incarnate.

Bouts of bronchitis exacerbated by London's fumes brought him and his family to the Wiltshire living of Hardenhuish with Woodlands, Chippenham. As parish priest, Gardiner regularly gave talks to the Round Table, where he met a group speaking about their work in marriage guidance. He told his wife Elizabeth that this was what he wished to devote the rest of his life to.

Mending and saving marriages now became crucial goals of his. Many couples owe their successful marriages to this strong, gentle man, who could never condemn anyone. Marriage guidance counsellors sometimes pass clients on to specialists in particular areas, and as Gardiner was sent more and more "problem" cases, he decided to take up sex therapy full-time. He was unshockable, permissive, and argued that "a perversion is only what someone perceives to be a perversion".

John Gardiner is survived by his wife Elizabeth, whom he married in 1940, and by two daughters.



PERSONAL COLUMN

TRUSTEE ACTS

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PROCTER, MARGARET of 44 Carrick Court, Kennington Park Road, London SE11 died on 27 April 1997 particulars to CARTER LEMON Solicitors of 11 BREAMS BUILDINGS, LONDON EC4A 1HB before 22 August 1997

SCOTT, MARGARET ANGELA of 64 Hotham Road, Putney, London SW15 died on 30 December 1996 particulars to LAWRENCE GRAHAM Solicitors of 190 STRAND, LONDON WC2R 1JN before 22 August 1997

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EVERETT, ANTHONY CHARLES of Holly Cottage, 4 Church Street, Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex TW16 6RG died on 30 October 1996 particulars to DRUCES & ATTLEE Solicitors of SALISBURY HOUSE, LONDON WALL, LONDON EC2M 5PS before 22 August 1997.

WILKINSON, SIR GEOFFREY of 14 Pasmore Street, London SW1 died on 26 September 1996 particulars to LAWRENCE GRAHAM Solicitors of 190 STRAND, LONDON WC2R 1JN before 22 August 1997

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LEGAL NOTICES

AN CHUIRT CHUARDA
(The Circuit Court)
RECORD NO. 866/97
Circuit DUBLIN
County of DUBLIN
ORDINARY Between
CIVIL BILL
ALLIED IRISH BANKS PLC
PLAINTIFF
AND
ANTHONY TAYLOR
DEFENDANT

You are hereby required within thirty five days after the service of this Civil Bill upon you, to enter, or cause to be entered, with the County Registrar at his Office at Aras Ui Dhalaigh, Inns Quay, Dublin 7 an Appearance to answer the claim of ALLIED IRISH BANKS PLC having its registered office at Bankcentre, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Public Limited Company, the Plaintiff herein, as indorsed hereon

AND take notice that, unless you do enter an Appearance you will be held to have admitted the said claim, and the Plaintiff may proceed therein and judgment may be given against you in your absence without further notice.

AND further take notice, that if you intend to defend the proceeding on any grounds, you must not only enter an Appearance as aforesaid, but also within twenty eight days after Appearance deliver a statement in writing to the Plaintiff or his Solicitor showing the nature and grounds of your Defence.

The Appearance may be entered by posting the same to the said Office and by giving a copy thereof to the Plaintiff, or his Solicitor, by post and a Defence may be delivered by posting or by giving same to the Plaintiff or his Solicitor.

Dated this 28th day of January 1997.

(Signed) JOYNT AND CRAWFORD
(Address) 8 ANGLESEA STREET, DUBLIN 2.
SOLICITORS FOR THE PLAINTIFF

To ANTHONY TAYLOR formerly of "Somerset", 19, Anglesea Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4, Company Director, Defendant.

By Order of Judge Lindsay made the 14th day of January 1997 the Defendant was granted six weeks from the date of this advertisement for entering an Appearance to the said Civil Bill.

A full copy of the Civil Bill can be obtained by the Defendant on application to the above Solicitors.

LEGAL NOTICES

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I, Lay Heng Chhung of 258 Greenside Lane, Droylsden, Manchester M43 7SL having for the last six months or more carried on the trade or calling of a Proprietor of Off Licences HEREBY GIVE YOU NOTICE that I intend to apply to the Licensing Justices for the City of Manchester sitting at the Transfer Sessions to be held at the Magistrates' Court, Crown Square, Manchester M60 1PR on Thursday the 3rd day of July 1997 (or any adjournment thereof) at 10.30am for the Provisional grant to me of a new Justices' Licence authorising me to sell by retail intoxicating liquor of all descriptions for consumption "OFF" the premises situate at 706 Burnage Lane, Burnage, Manchester M19 1NA and of which said property Messers R and F Appleton of 704/706 Burnage Lane, Burnage aforesaid are the owners.

Dated this 11th day of June 1997
HALLIWELL LANDAU,
St James's Court, Brown Street, Manchester M2 2JF. Solicitors and Authorised Agents for the Applicant.

Notice of appointment of a new Liquidator
CLIFFORD BARNETT GROUP LIMITED IN LIQUIDATION

Registered office address: Ernst & Young, Cloth Hall Court, 14 King Street, Leeds LS1 2JN
Liquidator: J D Newell, Ernst & Young, Cloth Hall Court 14 King Street Leeds LS1 2JN
Date of Appointment: 9 May 1997 following the resignation of Mr A R Marlor as Liquidator
By whom appointed: Annual Meeting of Creditors
Dated this 12th day of May 1997
J D NEWELL
LIQUIDATOR

PUBLIC NOTICES

LICENSING (SPECIAL HOURS CERTIFICATE)
RULES 1982 RULE 3
TO: The Clerk to the Justices
West Wiltshire Petty Sessional Division
Trowbridge Magistrates Court
East Wing
County Hall Trowbridge
Wiltshire BA14 8LF
TO: The Chief Constable
Wiltshire Constabulary
Police Headquarters
London Road
Devizes Wiltshire SN10 2DN

I RICHARD STANLEY KIRKUM of Bath Road Melksham Wiltshire hereby give you notice that I intend to apply to the said licensing justices at the transfer session to be held at Trowbridge on the 7 day of July next for a special hours certificate under Section 77 of the Licensing Act 1964 for the licensed premises situated at Bath Road Melksham and known as The Bear

Further take notice that if such a certificate is granted Section 76 of the said Act will apply to the said premises from the 7 day of July next

Any person intending to oppose the application shall give notice in writing of its intention to the applicant and to the Clerk to the Licensing Justices specifying in general terms the grounds of his opposition not later than seven days before the commencement of the above session.

Dated 19 June 1997
Wansbroughs
Northgate House
Devizes Wiltshire
SN10 1JX
Authorised agent on behalf of the applicant

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION
PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-680 6878
OR
FAX: 0171-481 9313
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

MOUNT ETNA DISASTER

ON THIS DAY

June 21, 1923

A later report gave the width of the lava flow as more than a mile with a depth of 30 feet.

From all accounts it is feared that the present eruption of Etna may prove as calamitous as that of 1911, which occurred in the same zone of Sicily, and may even be worse. It was hoped that the first messages, as is often the case, were exaggerating the gravity of the disaster, but today, unfortunately, it is no longer possible to doubt it. More than 20,000 people are already homeless; the countryside is devastated, farms and villages are buried, and the burning torrent continues its descent, amid loud explosions, under a gloomy and blackened sky.

The Special Correspondent of the *Corriere della Sera*, in a message despatched from Catania last night, says that the lava moves slowly. In one and a half hours it had moved only 40 yards, but the decrease in speed was due to the fact that its front end had widened. It had a width of 750 yards and a depth of nearly 25 feet. From time to time the torrent of lava seemed to rest, and in these short pauses its crusty surface appeared as though it were hardening and consolidating, but shortly afterwards the crust would break up again with a crash, throwing up and around bubbling and boiling masses of lava, and then the forward movement would be resumed. Fearful roarings were continuously heard. The damage to the land is already great, pretty groves of almond and nut trees have disappeared, forests of oak, copper beech, and birch have been enveloped in black clouds of smoke, broken now and again by the sudden flashing of flames. The beautiful pine woods of Castiglione have vanished. An incessant rain of *lapilli* in a thin dust is falling on the ferns, shrubs, and broom bushes. A layer of this *lapilli* an inch deep blackens the roads, gardens, and roofs of the houses, giving the impression of an immense shroud laid over a mourning country. A pitiful sight is presented by the peasants and small farmers, who cannot be persuaded to leave their homes but stick to them to the last. Then they try to save as much as they can, sometimes carrying away on their shoulders their most precious possessions. The work of rescue is carried out by the Carabinieri and the National Militia in a fine spirit of sacrifice. On the roads there is a continuous stream of lorries and carts. At Piedimonti the population brought out from the church the statue of St. Anthony, their patron saint, and placed it in the central square of the village. These superstitious scenes lasted the whole night, while the church bells were ringing the tocsin. At Linguaglossa on Tuesday morning the inhabitants took the pastoral staff from the statue of St. Egidius, the patron saint of Linguaglossa, and carried it in a supplicatory procession along the front of the lava. The popular belief is that on a previous occasion the staff of the saint had miraculously stayed the descent of the lava. But the population of Castiglione, when it heard of this procession, became excited and alarmed. The miracle, they thought, might have resulted in diverting the course of the lava from the direction of Linguaglossa to that of Castiglione. Therefore they marched to Linguaglossa, intending to stop the procession. A fight then broke out between the two factions.

Successful candidates in the Intermediate Examination, held in May 1997

Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales

Order of Merit and Prizes

First Place in the Order of Merit and the Plender Prize and the Watts Prize for the Paper on Auditing and Professional Issues
Melissa Jane Quick (Coopers & Lybrand) Milton Keynes

Second Place in the Order of Merit (equal) and the Stephens Prize and the Railton Prize for the paper on Management Information and Control
Edward James Jenkins (Price Waterhouse) London

Second Place in the Order of Merit (equal) and the Hewitt Prize
Celia Helen Atkinson (Honey Barrett) Haywards Heath

Fourth Place in the Order of Merit and the Northcott Prize
Louise Jane Farmery (Deloitte & Touche) Leeds

Fifth Place in the Order of Merit and the Casselton Elliott Prize
Zoe Julie Clare Hancock (Coopers & Lybrand) Reading

Sixth Place in the Order of Merit and the Arthur Swinson Prize
Hugo Edward William Robinson (Price Waterhouse) London

Seventh place in the Order of Merit
Anna Louise Skingsley (KPMG) St Albans

Eighth Place in the Order of Merit
Douglas Bruce Watkinson (Arthur Andersen) Reading

Ninth Place in the Order of Merit and the Howitt Prize for the paper on Business Planning and Finance
Kieran David Evans (Coopers & Lybrand) Sheffield

The Knox Prize for the Paper on Financial Reporting
Henry John Allen (Ernst & Young) London

The Little Prize for the Paper on Taxation
Neil Peter Richardson (Price Waterhouse) London

Abbott K J (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham: Abdul Razak M N (Clark Whitehill), London: Abdullah W R (Price Waterhouse), London: Abhyankar A H (Arthur Andersen), London: Adams D W (KPMG), Birmingham: Adams E (KPMG), Birmingham: Adams P C (Deloitte & Touche), Bracknell: Adams S (Kingston Smith), Croydon: Adamson I W (Reeves & Neylan), Ashford: Addy N C (KPMG), Bradford: Adjei-Twum N (Price Waterhouse), St Albans: Aggrey M J (Binder Hamlyn), London: Agha A A (Moore Stephens), London: Ahamed M F (Price Waterhouse), Leicester: Ahmad A (Greenwood, Barton & Co), Heckmondwike: Ahmad M (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Ahmed S U (Citroen Wells), London: Aitken F M (KPMG), Jersey: Akkelides C (KPMG), Manchester: Alahi G (Fisher H W & Company), London: Alcock P M (Pannell Kerr Forster), Bristol: Algeo S J (Pannell Kerr Forster), London: Alling T K L (Clarks), Slough: Allcock J (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Allen G A (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Allen H J (Ernst & Young), London: Allen M J (BDO Stoy Hayward), Bromley: Altoft P J (Hays Allan), London: Alvey P A (Buzzacott), London: Amess S A (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham: Aminullah S (Price Waterhouse), London: Anand A (Price Waterhouse), Windsor: Anderson D C (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge: Anderson G J (KPMG), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Ankrah L (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham: Appleton G R M (Ernst & Young), London: Appleyard L J (Latham Crossley & Davis), Chorley: Arnold J L (Horder Adey), London: Arnold V (Coopers & Lybrand), Norwich: Arora S (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Arthur B J (Waltons), Hartlepool: Ashcroft J (Deloitte & Touche), London: Ashley F E (National Audit Office), London: Ashley M E (Arthur Andersen), London: Ashmore T R (Hamilton-Burke Dufau), Liverpool: Asquith G E (Coopers & Lybrand), Croydon: Athienitis A C (Coopers & Lybrand), Nicosia: Atkinson C H (Honey Barrett), Haywards Heath: Atkinson R (Deloitte & Touche), Leeds: Attar-Zadeh R (Fisher H W & Company), London: Attwood D J G (Coopers & Lybrand), London*: Avery J (KPMG), London: Ayling G L (Kingston Smith), London: Ayre T (KPMG), Stoke-On-Trent: Azoulay R A (Arthur Andersen), London

Baddeley J C (Fraser Russell), London: Baggott D I (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham: Bailey A J (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading: Baker E A (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Baker P D (Neville Russell), London: Baker R L D (Wilson Baker & Co), Kingston-Upon-Thames; Bakrania R (Coopers & Lybrand), Northampton: Ball A (Grant Thornton), Bristol; Ball A G (Grant Thornton), Milton Keynes: Banerjee S (KPMG), London: Banks A (KPMG), Nottingham: Banks G E (KPMG), London: Bannister N (Kingston Smith), London: Barber K J (Ernst & Young), Ipswich: Barker J (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff: Barnard V M (Moores Rowland), London: Barnfather V J (KPMG), London: Barron J D (Deloitte & Touche), London: Bartlett C E N (Mitchell Charlesworth), Manchester: Bartlett J G (Deloitte & Touche), London: Barton G C (Shaw & Co), Bath: Basger A G (Edwards Veeder), Oldham: Bashforth E M (Ernst & Young), Nottingham: Basra D S (BDO Stoy Hayward), Birmingham: Bassi N (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham: Bate A T J (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Bateman C M (Kidsons Impey), Leeds: Bateman M J (Dixon Wilson), London: Batham M N (Arthur Andersen), London: Beale C J (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Beasley E K (Coopers & Lybrand), Cambridge: Beattie N M (Deloitte & Touche), London: Beauchamp S E (Ernst & Young), Birmingham: Beckford C J (KPMG), Maidstone: Beeby J D (Hartley Fowler), Horsham: Beedle L A (Grant Thornton), Manchester: Beeney R G (Deloitte & Touche), London: Beer D A (Coopers & Lybrand), Bristol: Bell C E (Ernst & Young), London: Bell J R (MacIntyre & Co), London: Bell S E (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge: Belsey J E (Deloitte & Touche), London: Bennett G A M (BDO Stoy Hayward), Wembley: Bennett G S (The Smith & Williamson Group), London: Bentley N L (Deloitte & Touche), Bristol: Berry N D (Coopers & Lybrand), Southampton: Berry S (Ernst & Young), Swindon: Berry T P (Leach Bright), Guildford: Besant Roberts H A (Hurst & Company), Stockport: Bett D B (Hardcastle Burton), Hoddesdon: Bettinson P R (Price Waterhouse), London: Bhatia K (Gruber Levinson Franks), Manchester: Bhattad A H (Chantrey Vellacott), London: Bingham B A (Chantrey Vellacott), Canterbury: Birch I (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham: Birkett N C (Deloitte & Touche), Liverpool: Bishop N D C (Binder Hamlyn), London: Bismal V (Deloitte & Touche), London: Black N (Coopers & Lybrand), Jersey: Blakey F I M (KPMG), London: Blomfield P R (Arthur Andersen), London: Blundell R A (Creaseys), Tonbridge: Blundy D W (KPMG), London: Boazman S (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham: Boggon J (Teasdales), Manchester: Bolster P C (Arthur Andersen), Bristol: Bommer A (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Bond J E S (Arthur Andersen), Reading: Bool N W (Bullimores), Dorking: Bose B S (Binder Hamlyn), London: Boston D J (KPMG), London: Boulton I S (Smith Cooper & Partners), Derby: Boustouler D A (Coopers & Lybrand), Jersey; Bowler S D (Deloitte & Touche), London: Bowley A J (BDO Stoy Hayward), London: Bowley P R (KPMG), Reading: Bowman D (Deloitte & Touche), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Bowman L (Casson Beckman), London: Bownas E J (Grant Thornton), Northampton: Boyce M R (KPMG), London: Bracken L M (Coopers & Lybrand), Jersey: Bradbrook M A (Lewis Golden & Co), London: Bradbury A M (Hacker Young), London: Bradley P A (Ernst & Young), Hull: Bradshaw M A (Pannell Kerr Forster), Liverpool: Brady P D (Rees Pollock), London: Bragg S C (Francis Clark), Plymouth: Braithwaite M F (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading: Brett A J A (KPMG), London: Brettle A R (Deloitte & Touche), London: Brewis E (Pannell Kerr Forster), London: Broadbent A J (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham: Broadley J N V (Deloitte & Touche), Crawley: Bromfield P L (Langdowns), Romsey: Brookes D (Moore Stephens), Scarborough: Brooksbank J R (Littlejohn Frazer), London: Broomberg A D (Arthur Andersen), London: Broomfield A S (Brooking, Knowles & Lawrence), Basingstoke: Brown C J (Kidsons Impey), Hove: Brown C R (Kidsons Impey), Birmingham: Brown F E L (Arthur Andersen), London: Brown S R (KPMG), Reading: Bryant L J (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Buck C (KPMG), Sheffield: Buckle C A (Ernst & Young), Liverpool: Bullock E C (Baker Tilly), Birmingham: Burke L (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds: Burke N (Daly, Hoggett & Co), London: Burlison D J (KPMG), London: Burlton C J (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham: Burrows J C (KPMG), Leeds: Burrows S R (National Audit Office), London: Burrows T M (Menzies), Staines: Butt W A (KPMG), Manchester: Butter C (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading: Bygrave L (Riley), Plymouth: Byrne A P (National Audit Office), London: Byrne L M (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham: Byrne M M (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Byrne S C (KPMG), Leeds

Caldwell A L (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester: Calvert S C (Price Waterhouse), London: Cameron J D (Barber, Harrison & Platt), Sheffield: Cammack N J (Kidsons Impey), Spalding: Camp M K (Pannell Kerr Forster), Manchester: Camp P J (Armstrong Watson & Co), Northallerton: Campbell D K (BDO Stoy Hayward), London: Cann A C L (Deloitte & Touche), Guernsey: Carby R A (Ernst & Young), Swindon: Carder E (Kingston Smith), St Albans: Cargill-Thompson E (Neville Russell), London: Carlyon S A (KPMG), Ipswich: Carnell C M A (Arthur Andersen), Leeds: Carpanini A M (Price Waterhouse), London: Carter A C (Deloitte & Touche), London: Carter B J (Larking Gowen), Norwich: Carter Shaw N P (Price Waterhouse), London: Castree S M (Price Waterhouse), London: Cates D R (Couch, Bright, King & Co), London: Catlin L M (KPMG), London: Caulton E R S (Price Waterhouse), Leicester: Cawley C (Deloitte & Touche), London: Chadwick F P (KPMG), Manchester: Chadwick L (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Chambers P J (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham: Champion M A (Ernst & Young), Exeter: Chan N Y (Deloitte & Touche), London: Chan P C Y (Harold Everett Wreford), London: Chapman A D (Solomon Hare), Bristol: Chapple C D (KPMG), London: Charalambous G N (Coopers & Lybrand), Larnaca: Charlton J W (Deloitte & Touche), Leeds: Charlwood A J (BDO Stoy Hayward), Bromley: Chatterjee P (Winters), London: Chaudhry G (Deloitte & Touche), London: Cheatham A P (Pannell Kerr Forster), Nottingham: Checkley R J (Deloitte & Touche), Bracknell: Chester M J (THR), Preston: Cheung A (Thomas C R & Co), London: Choo Kim Pin C S (Rooke Holt), London: Choo S Y (Leigh, Sorene & Lawson), London: Christodoulou P (Ernst & Young), Nicosia: Clark G J (Kingston Smith), London: Clark W D B (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds: Clarke A R (Price Waterhouse), Southampton: Clarke D R (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Clarke J J (Helmore, Helmore & Co), London: Clarke J R (Arthur Andersen), London: Clarke J (Arthur Andersen), London: Clarke J A (KPMG), Manchester: Clarke R O (Gruber Levinson Franks), Warrington: Clarkson A J (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester: Clayfield J G (Deloitte & Touche), London: Cleary M P (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Clements D R K (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham: Clifford R E (Jolliffe Cork), Wakefield: Coates P A (Brooking, Knowles & Lawrence), Basingstoke: Cochrane-Dyet D G (Coopers & Lybrand), Maidstone: Cock M J (Wilder Coe), London: Cockings C L (Deloitte & Touche), London: Coffey P (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham: Coladangelo C A (Wilkinson & Company), Bedford: Cole D J (Hale & Company), Maidenhead: Cole V C (KPMG), London: Coleman P B (Binder Hamlyn), Reading: Coles D N (Spofforths), Storrington: Collier T D (Rice & Co), Cannock: Collings A C (KPMG), London: Collins A J H (Deloitte & Touche), London: Collins E (Price Waterhouse), London: Collins J A (KPMG), Leeds: Collis J (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham: Collyer R J (Coopers & Lybrand), Southampton: Conquest L A (Layton Train), Barking: Conway M E (Robson Rhodes), Hemel Hempstead: Cook H J (Price Waterhouse), London: Cooper B L (KPMG), Liverpool: Cooper I E (Lee, Dicketts & Co), Sevenoaks: Cooper J R (Kidsons Impey), Chelmsford: Corner A S (Ernst & Young), Bristol: Cosgrove S J (Armstrong Watson & Co), Carlisle: Cotton J R (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Couch M A (KPMG), Birmingham: Coward R S (BDO Stoy Hayward), Ware: Cowley K M (Deloitte & Touche), Douglas: Cowling L E (Woodward Hale), Cirencester: Cox A D (Binder Hamlyn), London: Coy G (Moores Rowland), London: Crabb D E (Casson Beckman), London: Cracknell L M (Ernst & Young), London: Craddock S R (Neville Russell), Milton Keynes: Craig M S (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Craine R J (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Crane S (KPMG), Exeter: Crane S E (Binder Hamlyn), London: Crewe M A (Walker & Sutcliffe), Huddersfield: Crichton R J (KPMG), Stoke-On-Trent: Crispini D (Deloitte & Touche), Guernsey: Crombie R A (Arthur Andersen), London: Crossley N D (Pannell Kerr Forster), Liverpool: Crossley S G (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Crouch S J (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Crowe A J (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading: Crowther A (Grant Thornton), Sheffield: Crozier J D W (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading: Cruickshanks J M A (Newby Castleman), Leicester: Crush M (Neville Russell), London: Cryer C N (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Cullen S L (Coopers & Lybrand), Cambridge: Curley P A (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Currimbhoy S (Littlejohn Frazer), London: Currimjee R A (Arthur Andersen), London: Curtis T (Wenn Townsend), Oxford: Cutts A (Ernst & Young), Sheffield

Dadressan M (Price Waterhouse), London: Dafinone J U (Clark Whitehill), London: Dalborh R J (Monahans, Ledbury, Martin), Trowbridge: Dale G (Deloitte & Touche), Leeds: Dalton J C (Price Waterhouse), London: Daniels C (KPMG), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Danielson J M (KPMG), Douglas: Davidsen E B (Ernst & Young), Reading: Davidson M M (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Davidson O C (Coopers & Lybrand), London* Davies A J (KPMG), Leicester: Davies A P (KPMG), Jersey: Davies I M (Price Waterhouse), Southampton: Davies J (Robson Rhodes), Manchester: Davies J C (Bourner Bullock), London: Davies L M (Price Waterhouse), Cardiff: Davies M C (Fox, Evans & Partners), Coventry: Davies P R (Ernst & Young), Birmingham: Davies R J M (KPMG), Bristol: Davis F V (Price Waterhouse), London: Davis J R (Binder Hamlyn), St Albans: Dawson K (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham: Dawson N A (Gilchrist, Tash), Middlesbrough: Day J S (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham: Daykin S E (Coopers & Lybrand), Cambridge: De S (Fraser Russell), London: Deacon S J (Ernst & Young), London: Deakin A D (Price Waterhouse), Nottingham: Debray A (Morley & Scott), London: Deegan C L (National Audit Office), London: Della M J (Price Waterhouse), Southampton: Demosthenous P (Price Waterhouse), Nicosia: Dennett N J (Moores Rowland), London: Densem T R (Arthur Andersen), Manchester: Derrick J L (Coopers & Lybrand), Norwich: Derrington A D (Wenham Major), Birmingham: Devenney S (Arthur Andersen), London: Devereux A (Voisey & Co), Warrington: Devonport S L (Pannell Kerr Forster), London: Devoy C V (Binder Hamlyn), London, Dewar A M (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Dewberry P R (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Dhillon S (Silver Altman), London: Dickinson J (Hays Allan), London: Dickinson M R (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Dickinson P S (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester: Dobson R I (Bennett Brooks & Co Ltd), Knutsford: Dodhia S (Shah Dodhia & Co), London: Donoghue K J (Deloitte & Touche), London: Donovan M E (Price Waterhouse), Windsor: Doran P (Littlejohn Frazer), London: Douglas A J (Grant Thornton), Cleckheaton: Douglas S (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham: Dowdall A (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Dowdeswell A S (Hillier Hopkins), Watford: Downey D C (Deloitte & Touche), London, Downs A W (Deloitte & Touche), London: Dowse C L (Albert Goodman), Taunton: Draper J (KPMG), London: Dreon G R (Robt A Page & Co), Nottingham: Driver T A (KPMG), Crawley: Ducat E M D (Deloitte & Touche), Crawley: Dudley J A (Price Waterhouse), Southampton: Duncan G S (Pannell Kerr Forster), Norwich: Dunphy N A (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Dunster A D (Price Waterhouse), London: Durrant N A (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham: Dyer R L C (Francis Clark), Torquay: Dyoss C L (Price Waterhouse), London

Eames C E (KPMG), London: Earl S E (Mitchell Charlesworth), Liverpool: Earnshaw M D (Price Waterhouse), Leeds: Economides I F (Coopers & Lybrand), Nicosia: Edwards C H (KPMG), Ipswich: Edwards F (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Edwards H S (Grant Thornton), Cardiff: Edwards K F R (Grant Thornton), Brighton: Edwards P S (Morris Crocker), Portsmouth: Elliott R M (Deloitte & Touche), Crawley: Ellis N J (Deloitte & Touche), Bristol: Ellis S M (Buckle Barton), Leeds: Ellis S S (Deloitte & Touche), London: Elmes C A (Price Waterhouse), St Albans: Else E L (Kingston Smith), Hayes: Emmerson D J (Ernst & Young), London: English S P (Thomas May & Co), Leicester: Ennis R E (National Audit Office), London: Erskine K A (KPMG), Leeds: Eschapasse F A (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Etchell W J (Arthur Andersen), London: Evans A E (Coopers & Lybrand), Sheffield: Evans G L (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Evans K D (Coopers & Lybrand), Sheffield: Evans M G (Coopers & Lybrand), Liverpool: Evans M B E (KPMG), Bristol: Evans N D (Littlejohn Frazer), London: Evans S E (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Evans S E J (KPMG), Stoke-On-Trent: Evans S (Morris Owen), Swindon: Evans S J (Larking Gowen), Norwich: Ewings M E (Creasey Son & Wickenden), Sevenoaks: Eyre G P (Robson Rhodes), Leicester

Farebrother R E (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge: Farley I T (Price Waterhouse), Southampton: Farmery L (Deloitte & Touche), Leeds: Farnsworth R E (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Farnworth O (Kingston Smith), Croydon: Farooq H (Price Waterhouse), Windsor: Farr A J (Kidsons Impey), London: Faulkner R C (KPMG), London: Fearnall J (Hugill), London: Fedyayeva E (Ernst & Young), London: Feeley P J (Morgan Brown & Spofforth), London: Feetham P J (Coopers & Lybrand), Northampton: Fenelon M J (Arthur Andersen), Manchester: Ferguson P (Coopers & Lybrand), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Ferrers-Dunn S J (Price Waterhouse), Southampton: Fewster R S (Deloitte & Touche), London: Field C (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham: Fieldsend J (R Tait Walker & Co), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Fillery R J (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham: Fine A K (Price Waterhouse), London: Finely H R (Deloitte & Touche), London: Firth P J (KPMG), Manchester: Fish A S (Clark Whitehill Josolyne), Bradford: Fisher R (Mabe Allen), Derby: Fitzgerald A J B (Bolton Colby), Staines: Fitzgerald M G (KPMG), London: Flannery M J (Hawsons), Sheffield: Flavin K (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Fletcher N C (Pannell Kerr Forster), Leicester: Flint M (Coopers & Lybrand), Cambridge: Flint M J (Arthur Andersen), Nottingham: Flynn A L (Deloitte & Touche), Crawley: Fogarty A C (Cooper-Parry), Derby: Ford J M (Price Waterhouse), London: Ford R W (Deloitte & Touche), London, Forsyth M J (National Audit Office), London: Foster E J (Rayner Essex), St Albans: Foulds P E (Deloitte & Touche), Bracknell: Fowler M P (Alexander & Co), Manchester: Fowler P M (Neville Russell), Stockport: Fowles C A (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Francis A M (Ernst & Young), Reading: Francis J C T (Arthur Andersen), London: Franks M I (BDO Stoy Hayward), London: Fraser B P (Deloitte & Touche), London: Fraser G C (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham: Freedman D N (Kidsons Impey), London: Freeman A (KPMG), Bradford: Freeman I (Kingston Smith), London: Freeman S L (Scrutton Bland), Colchester: Frost A K (Plummer Parsons), Eastbourne: Frost G C (Coopers & Lybrand), Northampton: Frost G A (Jordan Brookes), Winchester: Fry C A (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Fukumura T (Price Waterhouse), London: Fuller L M (Grant Thornton), Poole: Fung-On N A R (Robson Rhodes), London: Funnell N J (Ernst & Young), Norwich: Furness C J (Price Waterhouse), London: Fussell P (Hazlewoods), Gloucester

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Touche), London: Moger C C (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Mohamad M (Price Waterhouse), London: Mohamed H (Clark Whitehill), Reading: Mohamed N (Price Waterhouse), St Albans: Monkhouse R E (Deloitte & Touche), London: Montague W E H (KPMG), Sheffield: Moore E (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Moores M D (Grant Thornton), London: Moran M C (Ernst & Young), London: Morfill L C (Saffery Champness), London: Morgan A K (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff: Morgan N T (Price Waterhouse), London: Morgan R L (Price Waterhouse): Bristol: Morgan S P C (MacIntyre & Co), London: Morgan S G (Wise & Co), Farnham: Morgan T J (Larking Gowen), Norwich: Morley C J (KPMG), Reading: Morrill R E (Arthur Andersen), London: Morris D J (Arthur Andersen), London: Morris G C (Shipleys), London: Morris K E (Arthur Andersen), Reading: Morris N J (Chantrey Vellacott), Croydon: Morris S P (Saffery Champness), Bournemouth: Morris S (Price Waterhouse), Douglas: Moss C L (KPMG), Leicester: Moulden K R (Chantrey Vellacott), London: Moxham D J (Deloitte & Touche), Bristol: Mukherjee R (Deloitte & Touche), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Murphy R F (Price Waterhouse), London: Murray C E (Arram Berlyn Gardner), London: Muskant D W (Price Waterhouse), London: Myers C C (Ernst & Young), Jersey: Myers H E (National Audit Office), London

Naqib T I (Arthur Andersen), London: Nash M J (KPMG), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Navato G R (Ernst & Young), London: Nayler J S J (BDO Stoy Hayward), London: Neal S D (Honey Barrett), Eastbourne: Needham D (Deloitte & Touche), Leeds: Neeve P J (KPMG), London: Nelson A J (Deloitte & Touche), Bristol: Nene S A (Deloitte & Touche), London: Neocleous K (Chantrey Vellacott), London: Neslany P J (KPMG), Manchester: Newborough D M (Pannell Kerr Forster), Leicester: Newman A C (Binder Hamlyn), London: Newstead J A W (Price Waterhouse), Leicester: Nicholls K (Coopers & Lybrand), Swansea: Nichols D J (KPMG), London: Nichols L A (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge: Nicholson B (Brooking, Knowles & Lawrence), Basingstoke: Nicholson C L (Haines Watts), Basingstoke: Nicholson P (Price Waterhouse), Middlesbrough: Nicolle J W S (Ernst & Young), Guernsey: Nisbett M P (Morgan Brown & Spofforth), London: Noone S A (Deloitte & Touche), London: Norman R (Pannell Kerr Forster), Exeter: Norris R C (Robinson Reed Layton), Truro: North D S J (Cooper Lancaster Brewers), London: Northen I C A (Robson Rhodes), Crawley: Nott P (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham: Nunn M G (Binder Hamlyn), London: Nuttall S L (Coopers & Lybrand), Cambridge: Nuttall T H (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Nwachuku L C (Ernst & Young), Reading: Nyman B M (Harold Sharp Son & Gresty), Sale

O'Brien A K (Deloitte & Touche), Cardiff: O'Connor M (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds: Odlind L F (Binder Hamlyn), London: O'Donnell C M (KPMG), London: Offenberg S H E (Binder Hamlyn), London: Ogram A (Arthur Andersen), London: Ogura M (Deloitte & Touche), London: Oh L (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Olive D P (Saffery Champness), London: O'Mahoney D (Pannell Kerr Forster), Birmingham: O'Neill G (Rickard Keen & Co), Southend-On-Sea: O'Neill S (KPMG), Manchester: Ong E L (Neville Russell), London: Orchard J (Sayer Vincent), London: O'Riordan D J (Pannell Kerr Forster), Manchester: Ornadel S P (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Osborn N J (Deloitte & Touche), Crawley: Ovenden T E (Price Waterhouse), London: Overton-Smith N J (Spofforths), Horsham: Owen G J (Arthur Goddard & Co), London: Owen M A (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Owen M L (KPMG), Stoke-On-Trent: Owen S T (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge: Owens R I (KPMG), Manchester: Owusu-Adjei T S (Coopers & Lybrand), London

Pain J M (Price Waterhouse), London: Painter K E (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading: Pande N D (Arthur Andersen), London: Pandya M (Harris & Trotter), London: Papadopoulos D (KPMG Peat Marwick), Limassol: Parker M H (Rouse & Co), Beaconsfield: Parr J D (KPMG), Preston: Parry C A (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Parsons D J (Lubbock Fine), London: Pass A J (Saffery Champness), Harrogate: Patel A A (Beever and Struthers), Manchester: Patel S R (KPMG), London: Paterson J M (Price Waterhouse), London, Paterson N J (Ernst & Young), London: Payne J D C (Deloitte & Touche), London: Payne S K (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham: Pearson M P (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester: Peeling D M (McBrides), Sidcup: Peerless C E (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Pell G G C (KPMG), Jersey: Penny E R (BDO Stoy Hayward), Birmingham: Perdesi S (Fraser Russell), London: Perkins C M H (Kidsons Impey), Tunbridge Wells: Perkins S E (KPMG), Crawley, Perriam J S (BDO Carnaby Barrett), Jersey, Perrins M F (Kidsons Impey), Chester: Pesco M A J (Price Waterhouse), Jersey: Phillips R H (KPMG), Bristol: Pickering C R (KPMG), London: Pickett R J (Graham Cohen & Co), Croydon. Pickles M D (Ernst & Young), London: Pigott G M (Clark Whitehill), Cheltenham: Pinchbeck S B (McCrackens), Grimsby: Pither S E (Deloitte & Touche), London: Pleace I D (Deloitte & Touche), London: Pool M A (Chater Allen), Cambridge: Pool S J (KPMG), Leicester: Porritt D (KPMG), Leeds: Porter D C (Richardson Jones), Marlow: Postle M G (Price Waterhouse), London: Potter A J (MGI Midgley Snelling), London: Potter L D (Price Waterhouse), London: Poulter S M (Arthur Andersen), London: Poulton H (Platt Rushton), Leigh-On-Sea: Poulton R J (KPMG), London: Pound R J (KPMG), London: Powell M D (Arthur Andersen), Manchester: Powell S W (Deloitte & Touche), St Albans: Poxon A J (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham: Prangnell N J (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading: Prasad P (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Press D S (Hazlems Fenton), London: Pressdee M (Deloitte & Touche), London: Preston A L (Arthur Andersen), Leeds: Preston D M (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Preysing C (KPMG), London: Price M J (Price Waterhouse), London: Pring K (Price Waterhouse), Windsor: Prisk K (Ernst & Young), Birmingham: Probert H (Coopers & Lybrand), Leicester: Proctor G E (Price Waterhouse), London: Proud A J (Ernst & Young), London: Pryse-Lloyd H L (The Smith & Williamson Group), London: Psaltis K (Coopers & Lybrand), Larnaca: Pugh S G (The Smith & Williamson Group), Guildford: Pugsley R C V (Ernst & Young), London: Pullen M R D (Brooking, Knowles & Lawrence), Winchester: Purcell M I (KPMG), Cardiff: Pursglove J S (Porter, Matthews & Marsden), Blackburn: Pushpaharan G (Ernst & Young), London: Pycock K E (Ensors), Ipswich: Pye M S (Allotts), Rotherham

Quick M J (Coopers & Lybrand), Milton Keynes: Quinlan S M (MacIntyre Hudson), Bedford: Quinn A L (KPMG), Milton Keynes

Rae K J (KPMG), London: Rahaman A (Price Waterhouse), London: Rahaman M I (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham: Rahman H (Shipleys), London: Rahman M H (Ernst & Young), London: Raine S E (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Rajpal M (MacIntyre Hudson), London: Rakowicz J B (Berg Kaprow Lewis), London: Railey P D (Price Waterhouse), London: Ramadan R J (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Raman R (Ernst & Young), Birmingham: Ramani Y R (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Ramnani N M (Fisher H W & Company), London: Ranson P N (Graham Cohen & Co), Croydon: Rattray A J C (Kingston Smith), London: Ravid B (KPMG), London: Ray I P (KPMG), London: Rayner A M G (Kingston Smith), London: Read A D (Auerbach Hope), London: Read C (Deloitte & Touche), Jersey: Reader S (Nyman Libson Paul), London: Redfern J D (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Reekie E J R (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Rees J G (Knox Cropper), London: Rees N V (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff: Rees S C (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester: Reeves C E (KPMG), Leeds: Reeves S P (Morgan Brown & Spofforth), London: Renton L J (Neville Russell), Oxford: Rhodes B J D (Moore Stephens), London: Richards A S (Arthur Andersen), London: Richards G J (Arthur Andersen), London: Richards P J (Baker Tilly), Birmingham: Richardson N P (Price Waterhouse), London: Ridd-Jones G R (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Riddleston M J (Price Waterhouse), London: Ridge T (Coopers & Lybrand), Croydon: Rigby J A (Winters), London: Rix N C (Deloitte & Touche), Cambridge: Robbie S (Coopers & Lybrand L L P), Douglas: Robbings A (Grant Thornton), London: Roberts A L M (Ernst & Young), Manchester: Roberts D B T (Pannell Kerr Forster), Nottingham: Roberts G N (Pannell Kerr Forster), Liverpool: Roberts I D (Arthur Andersen), London: Roberts I W (Bright Grahame Murray), London: Roberts M A (Latham Crossley & Davis), Chorley: Roberts T (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Robertson D A (KPMG), London: Robinson H E W (Price Waterhouse), London: Robinson J C (Price Waterhouse), Nottingham: Robinson M E (Coopers & Lybrand), Newcastle Upon Tyne: Robinson T D (KPMG), Leeds: Robson G M C (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff: Robson G D (Robson Rhodes), Crawley: Rocha M A (Arthur Andersen), London: Rochester C (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Rodgers A I (Price Waterhouse), Manchester: Rodrigues J E S (Ernst & Young), Birmingham: Rodrigues M L (Pannell Kerr Forster), London: Rogers A P (Ernst & Young), London: Rollo C L (National Audit Office), London: Romain G C (Deloitte & Touche), London: Romanovitch A E (Deloitte & Touche), London: Rosser M J (KPMG), Manchester: Rossin C S (KPMG), Derby: Rothwell M D (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Rowland Hill J A (McCabe Ford Williams), Herne Bay: Rowley S P (Madisons), Manchester: Ruddy G (Deloitte & Touche), Guernsey: Ruggles A J (Gilberts), St Albans: Runnicles N (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge: Russ N A (Price Waterhouse), Middlesbrough: Russell S J (Grant Thornton), Kettering: Ryan A P (Ernst & Young), London: Ryan J B (Price Waterhouse), London: Rynne T C (Duncan & Toplis), Boston

Sadler I W (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Sadler R J (Myers Clark), Watford: Saeed S (Arthur Andersen), London: Sams D W I (KPMG), London: Sanders I M (Solomon Hare), Bristol: Sanikop S (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham: Sankey E C (BDO Stoy Hayward), London: Sareen S K (KPMG), London: Saunders K F (Robson Rhodes), London: Sawhny S (Wagner & Partners), London: Sawyers J A (Grant Thornton), Crawley: Schneider M (Price Waterhouse), London: Scott C L (Nicholson J & Co), Lincoln, Scott R J (Silver Altman), London: Scully O H (Hacker Young), London: Searle R A (Winter Rule), Truro: Seed C A (Newby Castleman), Leicester: Seed H A (KPMG), Preston: Self A C (Ernst & Young), London: Semple M A (Ernst & Young), London: Senior M G (A Allen & Son), Stockport: Shah A (KPMG), London: Shah F (Deloitte & Touche), London: Shah J S (Binder Hamlyn), London: Shah S C (BDO Stoy Hayward), London: Shahid K M (Hacker Young), London: Shamash A (Maurice Apple), London: Shanmuganathan P (Ernst & Young), London: Sharer A E (Landau Morley), Wembley: Sharma A (Goatcher Chandler), Gravesend: Sharma A (Coopers & Lybrand), London: Sharman C A (Arthur Andersen), Cambridge: Sharper I D (Pulleyn Heselton), York: Shaw R G R (KPMG), London: Shea A J (Price Waterhouse), Windsor: Sheldon S J (Beever and Struthers), Manchester: Shepherd S C (Arthur Andersen), London: Shergill K S (KPMG), London: Shiakallis N (Chrysanthou & Christoforou), Nicosia: Shields V (Coopers & Lybrand), Cambridge: Shimmin E R (Coopers & Lybrand), Plymouth: Shirley L J (Deloitte & Touche), London: Shorrock E D (Arthur Andersen), Jersey: Shreeve H (Robson Rhodes), London: Siddiqui I U R (Simmons Gainsford), London: Siddle R J (Deloitte & Touche), Leicester: Sim V M (Grant Thornton), Leeds: Simpson J (Price Waterhouse), Leeds: Simpson P (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester: Siney P (Arthur Andersen), London, Singh B (Binder Hamlyn), Newcastle Upon Tyne:

Continued on page 25

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Successful candidates continued

Singh P (Price Waterhouse), Southampton; Singh R (Binder Hamlyn), St Albans; Sjostrom P E M (Arthur Andersen), London; Skerratt A (Booth Ainsworth), Cheadle; Skingsley A L (KPMG), St Albans; Skipworth P J (KPMG), St Albans; Slater N (Deloitte & Touche), London; Slotema S H (KPMG), London; Slow J M (KPMG), Leeds; Smallwood M J (Price Waterhouse), Manchester; Smith A J (Duncan & Toplis), Boston; Smith D J (Kingston Smith), London; Smith G M (Arthur Andersen), London; Smith R J B (Arthur Andersen), London; Smith R A (Callingham Crane), Leatherhead; Smith S J (Grant Thornton), Oxford; Smyth E J (Price Waterhouse), Manchester; Snelling M H (Kidsons Impey), London; Soards C J (Lovewell Blake), Great Yarmouth; Southey J D (BDO Stoy Hayward), Newmarket; Southworth V (Burnett Swayne), Southampton; Spann N (Arthur Andersen), Manchester; Spary C (Coopers & Lybrand), Jersey; Speck G (Clarkson Hyde), Sutton; Speight M A (Blick Rothenberg), London; Spink M D (Price Waterhouse), Windsor; Spooner A J (Binder Hamlyn), Manchester; Sprague C (Whiting & Partners), Ely; Spurr G (Ernst & Young), Swindon; Stafford C R (Price Waterhouse), Nottingham; Stallard R A (Ernst & Young), London; Stanley D E (Ernst & Young), London; Stanton A (Jordan Brookes), Winchester; Stanton D (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge; Starkey R J (Ernst & Young), Birmingham; Stavrou A P (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Stebbings R T (Everett & Son), London; Steele J (KPMG), Manchester; Steer L A (Haines Watts), Leeds; Steer-Fowler K J R (Heal & Co), Bideford; Steff D R (KPMG), Crawley; Stephens K A (Cooper Lancaster Brewers), Manchester; Stephenson N (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham; Stern J (Arthur Andersen), London; Stevens C R (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham; Stevens S E (Price Waterhouse), Nottingham; Stevenson N P (Coopers & Lybrand), Milton Keynes; Stewart B J (KPMG), London; Stewart K S (Coopers & Lybrand), Milton Keynes; Stockhausen M D (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Stockley A J (Deloitte & Touche), London; Stone P W (Coopers & Lybrand), Norwich; Stonehouse F C (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Storey I K (Gilberts), St Albans; Storey J M (Hawsons), Sheffield; Storey M N (Grant Thornton), Aylesbury; Storey S L (Price Waterhouse), Manchester; Stride E A (Ernst & Young), London; Strong M J F (KPMG), Swindon; Strugnell L (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham; Struthers H (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham; Strutt A J (Robson Rhodes), Cambridge; Struyven G J P E (Arthur Andersen), Reading; Suckling D J (Solomon Hare), Bristol; Sugden J (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester; Sugiyama E (Price Waterhouse), London; Sutton A N (Smailes, Goldie & Co), Hull; Sutton R I (Kingston Smith), Upminster; Sweeney C J (Ernst & Young), Manchester; Sweeney W H (Clark Whitehill), London; Sykes R M (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester

Tahir S T B (S Syedain & Co), London; Taib M (Wilder Coe), London; Tan J Y (Fisher H W & Company), London; Tanner C J (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Tariq A (Price Waterhouse), London; Taverner S (KPMG), Liverpool; Tay L (Hacker Young), London; Taylor A J (Arthur Andersen), London; Taylor C H (Deloitte & Touche), Liverpool; Taylor C (Ernst & Young), Sheffield; Taylor E C (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham; Taylor L (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Taylor R M (Coopers & Lybrand), Bristol; Taylor R J (Deloitte & Touche), Nottingham; Taylor R D (Arthur Andersen), Cambridge; Taylor S (Price Waterhouse), Southampton; Tejwani R B (Price Waterhouse), London; Terrett B J (Wickham, Hunt & Co), Hitchin; Teschke R C (Price Waterhouse), London; Thakrar R R (KPMG), London; Thomas B (Coopers & Lybrand), Norwich; Thomas E O (KPMG), London; Thomas J A (Moore Stephens), Birmingham; Thomas N R (Price Waterhouse), Nottingham; Thomas S (Bentley Jennison), Bristol; Thompson S L (KPMG), Manchester; Thompson S C (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Thomson A J (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds; Thornyke J (Hays Allan), London; Thornhill R (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester; Thurgood S H (Solomon Hare), Chippenham; Tillett J C (Price Waterhouse), London; Tisi J P (Maynard Heady), Canvey Island; Titchmarsh E J (Ernst & Young), London; Toburt S D (Waring J H & Co), Bolton; Toh V S S (Westbury Schotness), London; Tomkinson C (Price Waterhouse), Leicester; Tong J E (Ernst & Young), Reading; Topping A (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester; Toynton L M (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Treacy F M (Neville Russell), London; Troughton S E (Deloitte & Touche), Nottingham; Truscott S T (Binder Hamlyn), Manchester; Tsielepis G C (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Tucker J C (Pannell Kerr Forster), Liverpool; Turner C (Robson Rhodes), London; Turner D (Spokes & Company), Hildenborough; Turner N (Coopers & Lybrand), Leicester; Turnsek A (Coopers & Lybrand), London*; Tweedie M S (Hilton, Sharp & Clarke), Brighton; Twite M R (Deloitte & Touche), London; Tye C N (Ernst & Young), Birmingham; Tyrer S J (John Fairhurst & Co), Wigan

Ul-Haq A (Arthur Andersen), Manchester; Underwood C (Price Waterhouse), Nottingham; Underwood N D (Wenham Major), Birmingham; Undrill L J (Ernst & Young), London

Vachell A S A (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge; Van Der Linde N E (Ernst & Young), London; Van L T (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham; Varney H (KPMG), London; Vaughan-Owen A (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff; Vicars P R (Ernst & Young), London; Vinton M C (KPMG), Huddersfield; Virmani S (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham; Vollans T (Auker Rhodes), Bradford; Vranesevic G (KPMG), London

Wade D (Fraser Russell), Bishop's Stortford; Wade L E (BDO Stoy Hayward), Norwich; Wakefield S J (Dixon Wilson), London; Wakefield T (KPMG), London; Waldren C E (Coopers & Lybrand), Southampton; Walker C A (KPMG), Liverpool; Walker C (Leach Bright), Guildford; Walker E (Jayson Newman), London; Walker E J (Mercers Bryant), London; Walker H J (Scodie Deyong), London; Walker J M (Baker Tilly), Crawley; Wallace P J (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge; Waller P J (Streets & Co), Lincoln; Walley V L (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Walsh A (KPMG), Birmingham; Walsh C R (KPMG), Manchester; Walters C J (Buzzacott), London; Wanless M (Coopers & Lybrand), Jersey; Ward E (Arthur Andersen), London; Ward J M (Ernst & Young), Leicester; Ward M (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Ward N J (Coopers & Lybrand), Norwich; Ward P F C (Kramers), London; Ward P (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham; Wardle C J (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham; Warford P F (Clarkson Hyde), Sutton; Warne E F (Pannell Kerr Forster), Leeds; Warner C (Wagstaffs Stevenage), Stevenage; Warren J (Chantrey Vellacott), London; Warren M (Forrester Boyd), Grimsby; Warrington K (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham; Warwick D (Armstrong Watson & Co), Carlisle; Watkin J L (Wenham Major), Birmingham; Watkins C G (Rouse & Co), Beaconsfield; Watkinson D B (Arthur Andersen), Reading; Watson A L (KPMG), Nottingham; Watson L (Deloitte & Touche), Newcastle Upon Tyne; Watson M (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham; Way S J (Alliotts), Harrow; Weaver M J (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Webster J R (Brooking, Knowles & Lawrence), Basingstoke; Webster L J (Deloitte & Touche), London; Webster M M (Arthur Andersen), London; Weir A P (Goodman Jones), London; West J M (KPMG), London; Westerman P R (Whittingham Riddell), Shrewsbury; Whalley S G (Langton Morland), Liverpool; Whapham C E (BDO Stoy Hayward), Birmingham; Whalling M (Price Waterhouse), Leicester; Whiddon C J (Arthur Andersen), London; White C M (Barber, Harrison & Platt), Sheffield; White D E (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds; White K C J (Ernst & Young), Southampton; White N A (KPMG), Reading; Whiteford L M (Thoburn & Chapman), South Shields; Whitfield N S B (Price Waterhouse), London; Whitten M J (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff; Whittle A H (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Whittle S M (KPMG), Cambridge; Whitton J (Latham Crossley & Davis), Chorley; Whitworth P A (Ernst & Young), London; Whorrod R (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham; Widdowson P E (Felton & Co), Birmingham; Wightman S M (KPMG), Huddersfield; Wighton A G (Price Waterhouse), Leeds; Wignall S J (Ernst & Young), Manchester; Wijayatilleke S P (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge; Wilkins S J A (Arthur Andersen), London; Wilkinson C A (Harold Sharp Son & Gresty), Urmston; Wilkinson H J (Price Waterhouse), London; Wilkinson K J (Baker Tilly), Manchester; Wilkinson M R (KPMG), Norwich; Wilkinson P J (Brown, Butler & Co), Leeds; Williams A P C (BDO Stoy Hayward), London; Williams D J (Arthur Andersen), London; Williams E (Price Waterhouse), Nottingham; Williams E J (Coopers & Lybrand), Swansea; Williams G A N (Slater, Chapman & Cooke), London; Williams J (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham; Williams K L (Arthur Andersen), London; Williams M H (Coopers & Lybrand), Liverpool; Williams S L (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham; Williams S J (KPMG), Swindon; Willingham D F (National Audit Office), London; Willott C A (KPMG), Bristol; Wilmot J (Cooper-Parry), Derby; Wilmot S J (Grant Thornton), Slough; Wilson A J (Whitehead & Aldrich), Preston; Wilson A B (Pole Arnold), Leicester; Wilson C J (Price & Company), Eastbourne; Wilson G H (Deloitte & Touche), London; Wilson M S J (Coopers & Lybrand), Newcastle Upon Tyne; Wilson R A (Baker Tilly), Bradford; Wilson S L (Deloitte & Touche), Leeds; Windelinckx D (KPMG), Manchester; Wingham O J (Pole Arnold), Leicester; Winkworth L M (Arthur Andersen), Manchester; Winton C L (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading; Witt R (Lyon Pilcher), Southampton; Wojna K M (Robson Rhodes), Leicester; Woo R B H (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham; Wood K L (Arthur Andersen), London; Wood T F (Robson Rhodes), Cambridge; Woodhouse D R S (Robson Rhodes), London; Woodward J M (Francis Clark), Plymouth; Woodward V J (KPMG), Birmingham; Wooff D (Price Waterhouse), Newcastle Upon Tyne; Woolner T A (Coopers & Lybrand), Norwich; Worden S D (KPMG), Plymouth; Worsnip J C (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Worth A S R (Baker Tilly), Birmingham; Worton N H (Morley & Scott), London; Wright A E (Deloitte & Touche), Nottingham; Wyatt J R (Fisher H W & Company), London; Wynne-Eyton E K (Ernst & Young), Liverpool

Yamaguchi Y (Price Waterhouse), London; Yap A R K (KPMG), London; Yates C H F (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham; Yeo R P (Coopers & Lybrand), Plymouth; Young C P (Coopers & Lybrand), London; Young R P (Blick Rothenberg), London; Young T C (Warrener Stewart), London; Yu C Y W (Coopers & Lybrand), Liverpool

Zajac P A (Coopers & Lybrand), Liverpool; Zeynel Y (Moores Rowland), London; Zhang J (Price Waterhouse), London

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*These candidates have been required to pass four papers at Intermediate. In the fifth subject, Taxation, they must successfully complete a scheme of competence-led assessment.

The Institute of Chartered Accountants' credit list

CREDIT LIST SUBJECT CODES

The following candidates have obtained credit for the subjects shown in capitals against their names. Credits obtained previously are shown in lower case.

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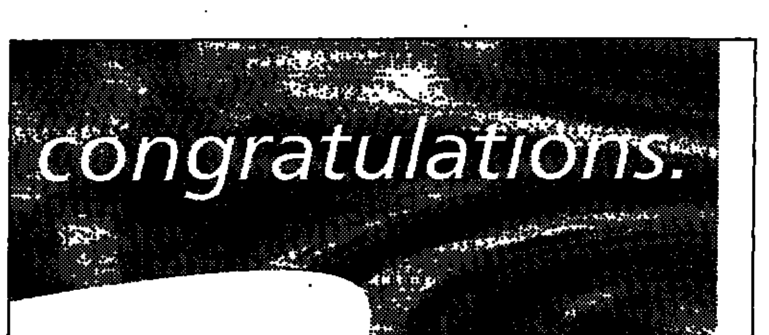

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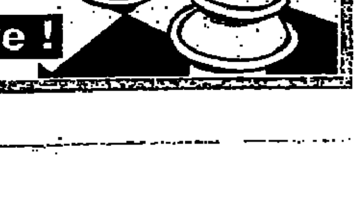

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Gallant L A J (Kidsons Impey), Horsham, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Gallop T D (Ernst & Young), Cambridge, api, fr, TAX: Gandy H E (Hurst & Company), Stockport, FR: Gardner S M (BDO Stoy Hayward), London, FR, BPF, TAX: Garner A S (Harrison Black), Newport, API, FR: Garner G E (BDO Stoy Hayward), Wembley, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Garnett C S (National Audit Office), London, fr, TAX: Garrett F M (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Garvey V E (Price Waterhouse), Newcastle Upon Tyne, API, FR, TAX: Gee-Pemberton C (Cooper-Parry), Nottingham, , TAX: Gellman T H (Kingston Smith), London, fr, MIC, bpf, TAX: George A D (Hillier Hopkins), Aylesbury, API, FR, BPF: Georgiades G (Deloitte & Touche), Nicosia, FR, bpf: Gibson F (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham, FR, MIC, TAX: Gidney L C (KPMG), London, FR, MIC: Gifford J C (Berkeley Jackson), Glastonbury, API, FR, TAX: Gilbert C (Deloitte & Touche), Leicester, API, MIC, BPF, TAX: Gillard A J (KPMG), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Gilmartin L S (Morley & Scott), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Gleadall J A S (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Gordon G C (Price Waterhouse), London, API, fr, TAX: Gordon-Stewart A J (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Gorvin A M F (Arthur Andersen), Leeds, FR, MIC: Gosal P K (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Gosling C L (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Gould V A (Price Waterhouse), Windsor, API, TAX: Gowers P J (Hereward Philips), London, API, FR, MIC: Graham R F (Price Waterhouse), Leicester, MIC: Gray A (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds, API, BPF: Gray D H (Coopers & Lybrand), Sheffield, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Gray T L (KPMG), Guernsey, FR, MIC: Green E H (Goodman Jones), London, FR, bpf, TAX: Green M B (Binder Hamlyn), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Green V R (Price Waterhouse), London, FR, BPF, TAX: Greenacre S C (Scrutton Bland), Ipswich, FR, BPF, TAX: Greensmith R M (Arthur Andersen), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Gregg P M (Ernst & Young), London, FR, BPF, TAX: Grier A J (Larking Gowen), Holt, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Grieves V J (Arthur Andersen), Leeds, API, FR: Griffiths A G (KPMG), Jersey, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Grigg A E (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Grigg E A (Deloitte & Touche), Bracknell, FR, MIC, TAX: Grint K A (Morison Stoneham), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Groom E A (Coopers & Lybrand), Maidstone, API, FR, TAX: Grundy G E (BDO Stoy Hayward), Manchester, API, FR, BPF: Guscott W J (Kidsons Impey), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Guthrie S L (Bloomer Heaven), Birmingham, FR, MIC, TAX

Haddath C L (Arthur Andersen), Manchester, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Hairon K J (Coopers & Lybrand), Jersey, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Hale J E (Price Waterhouse), London, FR, MIC, TAX: Hale M I (KPMG), Maidstone, API, FR: Hamed M (Price Waterhouse), Southampton, FR: Hamilton G F (Arthur Andersen), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Hammond A (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Hanlon J E (Haines Watts), Newcastle Upon Tyne, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Haralambous A (Baker Tilly), Crawley, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Harding I J (Humphrey & Co), Eastbourne, MIC: Harel P J (Everett & Son), London, FR: Hargrave L (KPMG), Nottingham, fr, MIC, BPF, TAX: Harla B (KPMG), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Harrington C M (Morison Stoneham), Swindon, FR, mic, bpf, TAX: Harris C E (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading, FR, MIC: Harris H J (Allott, Rawkins & Holden), Preston, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Harris S D (Deloitte & Touche), St Albans, BPF, TAX: Hartley J E (Dunhams), Manchester, API, FR, TAX: Hartnack M D (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Hartwell C E (Brooking, Knowles & Lawrence), Winchester, fr, mic, bpf, TAX: Harvey A L (Bishop Fleming), Plymouth, API, FR, TAX: Hasan I I (Arthur Andersen), London, FR, BPF: Hatton N J (Robson Rhodes), Leeds, API, FR, TAX: Hatwell H V (KPMG), Norwich, fr, mic, BPF, tax: Hawker G R (Arthur Andersen), London, FR, MIC: Hawkins S E (KPMG), Bristol, FR, MIC, BPF: Haywood D P (Arthur Andersen), London, api, fr, mic, TAX: Heap R J (KPMG), Manchester, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Henderson I A R (BDO Stoy Hayward), Ewell, FR, TAX: Henderson J (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, MIC, BPF, TAX: Henderson T C (Rawlinson & Hunter), Ewell, FR, BPF, TAX: Henton C J (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Hernon L (Robson Rhodes), Manchester, API, FR, MIC: Herring M A (Burton & Jackson), Mexborough, API, FR, TAX: Hewett G S (Davies Williams), Cardiff, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Heyworth K J (Price Waterhouse), Manchester, fr, MIC, bpf, tax: Hickey B (Wilkins Kennedy), Southend-On-Sea, API, fr, MIC, TAX: Hickman N (Dixon Wilson), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Higgins J D (Binder Hamlyn), St Albans, fr, mic, TAX: Higginson D (KPMG), Birmingham, API, fr, BPF, TAX: Higham R (Chantrey Vellacott), London, api, fr, TAX: Hilgeland T (KPMG), Guernsey, FR: Hill A D C (Gilberts), St Albans, API, FR: Hill J C (Latham Crossley & Davis), Chorley, API, MIC, BPF: Hills N W (Pannell Kerr Forster), Guildford, FR, MIC, TAX: Hinton T J (Cox Hinkins & Co), Oxford, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Hippolyte C E M (Binder Hamlyn), London, API, FR, TAX: Hitchens N J (Barnes Roffe), Dartford, API, FR, bpf, TAX: Hoare J (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, API, BPF, TAX: Hobley C J S (Gilberts), St Albans, API, MIC, TAX: Hocking G B S (Grant Thornton), Cheltenham, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Hodge G D (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff, API, MIC, TAX: Holder N J (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, API, FR, MIC: Holland K J (Price Waterhouse), Southampton, API, TAX: Holland R J (BDO Stoy Hayward), Bury St Edmunds, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Holmes E L (BDO Stoy Hayward), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Holmes S (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, FR: Holmes S C (Day, Smith & Hunter), Rickmansworth, FR, MIC, TAX: Holmes S J (Kidsons Impey), London, FR, BPF, TAX: Hope M S (Rawlinson & Hunter), Ewell, API, FR, BPF: Hopewell J P (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Hopkin A J (Coopers & Lybrand), Croydon, API, FR, MIC: Hopwood E M (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Horn J R (Howard Lee, Fellows & Co), Farnborough, API, fr, BPF, TAX: Hothersall M T (Kidsons Impey), Manchester, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Houchen C E (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, TAX: Hove T (KPMG), Manchester, api, fr, BPF: How A L (Baker Tilly), Watford, FR, BPF: Howard S R (Neville Russell), Sutton, API: Howford D (Pannell Kerr Forster), Sheffield, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Hudson S J (Willis Parsons), New Milton, api, fr, MIC, tax: Huffee C A (Coopers & Lybrand), Leicester, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Hughes A (Arthur Andersen), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Hughes S B (Coopers & Lybrand), Liverpool, MIC, BPF, TAX: Hulme W M (Price Waterhouse), Manchester, API, FR, BPF: Hulse C R (BDO Stoy Hayward), London, API, BPF, TAX: Hulse J C (KPMG), London, api, fr, BPF: Humphreys V K (Bishop Fleming), Bristol, api, FR, BPF, tax: Humphries R J (Levy Gee Calthorpes), London, API, FR, BPF: Hunt C J (Arthur Andersen), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Hunt J M (Arthur Andersen), Leeds, MIC: Hunt P R (Chandlers), Guernsey, FR, mic, bpf: Hunt S E (Walter Hunter & Co), Newport, FR, MIC, TAX: Hunt T A (Price Waterhouse), Windsor, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Hutchins M C (Price Waterhouse), Windsor, fr, bpf, TAX: Hutchinson J (Coopers & Lybrand), Leicester, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Huws O G (J Llywelyn Hughes & Co), Llanrwst, FR, BPF, TAX: Hvass C (KPMG), Ipswich, API, FR, MIC

Imrie I R (Andrew Moore & Co), Sudbury, FR, MIC, TAX: Iosiphakis J (Coopers & Lybrand), Nicosia, fr, mic, bpf, TAX: Ireland M R (Deloitte & Touche), London, API, FR, TAX: Irisarri D M (Barnes Roffe), Uxbridge, api, FR, MIC, tax: Irwin C J (KPMG), Southampton, API, MIC, TAX: Isaacs D (Pick R A & Co), London, FR, TAX: Isemann W G (Price Waterhouse), Southampton, FR, MIC, BPF: Isted R W (Saffery Champness), London, API, TAX

Jackson S L (Grant Thornton), Cheltenham, API, FR, MIC: Jackson Y (Clayton & Brewill), Nottingham, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Jeal T (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, fr, MIC, bpf, TAX: Jenkins C G (Arthur Andersen), Manchester, FR, TAX: Jenkins K E (Clark Whitehill), London, API, MIC: Jenkins W C (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Jenner Z (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Jesinger P (Robson Rhodes), Manchester, API, FR, MIC, TAX: John I M (Kingston Smith), St Albans, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Johnson A (KPMG), Crawley, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Johnson C F (Levy Gee Calthorpes), London, fr, BPF, tax: Johnson M E C (Swindells & Gentry), Uckfield, API, FR: Johnson M E (Downham & Co), Manchester, FR, TAX: Johnson N R (Price Waterhouse), Windsor, FR, MIC, BPF: Johnston A C (KPMG), Leeds, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Jones D H (Murray Smith & Co), Northwich, BPF, TAX: Jones M A (Moore Stephens), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Jones N W (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff, FR, tax: Jones N T (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Jones S E W (Brebner, Allen & Trapp), London, API, FR, TAX: Jones S M (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, MIC: Jones T M (McBrides), Sidcup, API, FR: Jopson W A (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Joscelyne P M (Critchleys), Oxford, FR, TAX: Judge K (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge, FR, BPF, TAX

Kamil N R (Coopers & Lybrand), Derby, api, MIC, BPF, TAX: Kapica J R (Windsor Stebbing Marsh), London, api, fr, MIC, TAX: Karlsson Butler B V (Simpson, Wreford & Co), London, API, FR: Kay J F (Horder Adey), London, api, fr, BPF, tax: Kelly C (Arthur Andersen), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Kemp M (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Kenna M D (KPMG), Cambridge, FR, MIC, TAX: Kennard A D (Arthur Andersen), London, API, mic, bpf, tax: Kent R P (Ernst & Young), Douglas, FR: Kenworthy A M, MIC: Kenyon N J (Binder Hamlyn), St Albans, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Keogh-Peters G M (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Keough R G G (Waterworths), Blackburn, FR, MIC, TAX: Kershaw R J (Robson Rhodes), London, api, MIC, TAX: Key A M L (Coopers & Lybrand), Norwich, BPF: Khatri S O (Ernst & Young), Luton, FR, TAX: Kirkland C E (Price Waterhouse), London, API, MIC, TAX: Kirkwood P (Casson Beckman), London, FR, BPF, TAX: Kirmani A (Price Waterhouse), St Albans, api, FR, BPF: Kirwan G H (Pannell Kerr Forster), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Kitchener H J (Clement Keys), West Bromwich, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Klechtchev V (Price Waterhouse), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Knapp R P (Coopers & Lybrand), Leicester, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Kymm C (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, bpf, TAX

Lack I D (Sharp, Parsons, Tallon), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Laine C M (Deloitte & Touche), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Laine M K (Coopers & Lybrand), Sheffield, API, MIC: Laird R I (Grant Thornton), Manchester, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Lam Yan Foon P E R (KPMG), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Lamb R J (KPMG), Birmingham, FR, TAX: Lambe W A (Arthur Andersen), London, FR, MIC, TAX: Lamers P M (Binder Hamlyn), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Lancashire J A (KPMG), Bristol, API: Lawrence C S (Ernst & Young), Norwich, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Lawson I S (KPMG), St Albans, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Leci J I (Harris & Trotter), London, API, fr, bpf, tax: Lecroy D A (Ernst & Young), Manchester, fr, BPF, TAX: Ledesma A P (Coopers & Lybrand), London, FR, MIC, TAX: Lee K A F (Coopers & Lybrand), Sheffield, BPF, TAX: Lefort I R P (Hartley Fowler), London, API, TAX: Lemmon A C (Garbutt & Elliott), York, fr, MIC, BPF, tax: Leonard D J (KPMG), Manchester, API: Leslie D (Deloitte & Touche), Bristol, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Liddiard A J (Ernst & Young), Leicester, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Lieu N (Jordan Brookes), Winchester, FR, BPF, TAX: Lighting B A (Coopers & Lybrand), Bristol, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Lim C H (Eacott Worrall), Burnham, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Lipman R M (Kingston Smith), London, API, FR, TAX: Livesey N A J (Thomas Coombs & Son), Leeds, FR, MIC, BPF: Livingstone R C (Fraser Russell), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Lloyd-Baker E W R (Arthur Andersen), London, MIC, TAX: Lobban J M (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Lodge G (Price Waterhouse), Manchester, FR, BPF, TAX: Lomax S A (Beever and Struthers), Manchester, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Lovelace C B (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading, FR, BPF, TAX: Lovell J D (KPMG), Birmingham, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Low D F (KPMG), London, API, FR: Lowe C (Hargreaves, Brown & Benson), Colne, fr, MIC, tax: Loyden P N (Deloitte & Touche), Liverpool, API, TAX: Luddington B S (Robson Rhodes), London, API, FR, BPF: Luxton J A (Thomas Westcott & Gillard), Exeter, API, FR, TAX: Lwin K T D (Coopers & Lybrand), Liverpool, FR: Lyon-Mercado P (Saffery Champness), London, api, fr, BPF, tax

McAdam D W (Coopers & Lybrand L L P), Douglas, API, TAX: McAlinden B P (Orr Shoulff), London, API, MIC: McCallum J L (Baker Tilly), Guildford, API: McCammon P A (Arthur Andersen), Nottingham, MIC: McClements H L (Pannell Kerr Forster), Douglas, api, fr, MIC, bpf: McCready D J (Casson Beckman), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: McCudden F M (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: McDonnell M T (Pannell Kerr Forster), Nottingham, fr, bpf, TAX: McDougall I P (KPMG), Preston, API, mic, BPF: McGee M J (Buzzacott), London, FR, BPF, TAX: McGibbon M J (Price Waterhouse), Manchester, API: McGlashan J A (Coopers & Lybrand), Swansea, API, BPF, TAX: McGuire M J (Deloitte & Touche), Nottingham, API, FR, MIC: McKay S (Neville Russell), Oxford, API, FR: Mackett J (Deloitte & Touche), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Mackin J L (Moore Stephens), Corby, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: McKinney R (Cooper Lancaster Brewers), London, API, fr, mic, BPF: Mackinnon D R G (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading, FR: McLaren J C (Arthur Andersen), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Madden M L (Hillier Hopkins), Hemel Hempstead, API, FR, tax: Maffi F A V (Menzies), Walton-On-Thames, API, FR, TAX: Mahal K (Grant Thornton), Birmingham, FR: Mahoney E A (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, API, TAX: Main D R (Binder Hamlyn), London, API, fr, tax: Man C (Arthur Andersen), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Mangal A K (Thaper & Co), Birmingham, API: Mann K S (Lubbock Fine), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Mansour N J (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Mapes E C (Pannell Kerr Forster), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Mapley O N (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Marr R D (Price Waterhouse), Newcastle Upon Tyne, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Marsden N H A (Arthur Andersen), Leeds, FR, MIC, TAX: Martin A J (Neville Russell), Milton Keynes, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Martin C J (Robson Rhodes), London, API, FR, TAX: Mason S J K (Coopers & Lybrand), London, fr, BPF, TAX: Mason T I R (KPMG), Bristol, API, FR, BPF: Masters M S D (Grant Thornton), Farnham, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Mawby R G (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham, API, FR, MIC, TAX: May-Hill R R A (KPMG), Cardiff, MIC: Mee V A (Haines Watts), Sheffield, FR, TAX: Mehta A (Larking Gowen), Norwich, FR, MIC: BPF, TAX: Menardi F (Price Waterhouse), Leeds, API, MIC, BPF, TAX: Michael M (Coopers & Lybrand), Nicosia, api, fr, TAX: Mignot J (KPMG), Guernsey, API, FR: Millar F C (Brooking, Knowles & Lawrence), Basingstoke, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Millar K B (Ernst & Young), Manchester, BPF: Miller E (Barber, Harrison & Platt), Sheffield, API, MIC, BPF: Miller J M (Buckland & Duncombe), Tunbridge Wells, API, FR, TAX: Miller M I (Binder Hamlyn), Manchester, TAX: Miller V (Price Bailey), Bishop's Stortford, api, fr, MIC, tax: Millington P (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester, API, MIC, TAX: Milsom M C (Bishop Edmund Umbleja), Cardiff, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Minchew S E (Deloitte & Touche), Cardiff, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Minty D (Robson Rhodes), Manchester, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Mitchell R B (Hughes Allen), London, API, FR, BPF: Mitchell T J (Whittingham Riddell), Shrewsbury, BPF: Mitson J V (National Audit Office), London, API, MIC, TAX: Mohamad Shah S A (Horne Brooke Shenton), Blackpool, FR, TAX: Moncur J C (Rothman Pantall & Co), London, API, FR, TAX: Montgomery A S (Coopers & Lybrand), Milton Keynes, FR, BPF, TAX: Moody S J (Greaves Grindle), Alnwick, API, BPF, TAX: Moorby A M (Sagars), Leeds, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Moore S J (KPMG), Manchester, API, FR, TAX: Moores J (Price Waterhouse), Manchester, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX: Morris A P (Coopers & Lybrand), Nottingham, API, MIC, BPF, TAX: Morris R J (KPMG), St Albans, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Morrison G S (Coopers & Lybrand), Newcastle Upon Tyne, , TAX: Moss A S J (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Murphy J E (Arthur Andersen), London, FR, MIC, TAX: Mustard M W (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, TAX: Myers N T (BDO Stoy Hayward), Nottingham, TAX: Myers P C (Ernst & Young), Manchester, API, FR, BPF, TAX

Nagevadia K P (Moore Stephens), London, fr, MIC, bpf, TAX: Negus C H (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Neophytou I (KPMG Peat Marwick), Limassol, FR, mic: Neppi B A (Bird Luckin), Chelmsford, API, FR, TAX: Nesbitt N (Binder Hamlyn), St Albans, API, FR: Newell C L (Burnett Swayne), Southampton, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Ngu J T A (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR: Nik Abdul Aziz N A (Barcant Beardon), London, fr, bpf, TAX: Nixon K K (KPMG), Newcastle Upon Tyne, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Noble A C P (Arnold Hill & Co), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF: Noble G M (Nicholson J & Co), Lincoln, FR, MIC: Nomani M A A (Javed & Co), Birmingham, fr, MIC, bpf, tax: Norman C E (KPMG), Exeter, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Norris S J (Coopers & Lybrand), Swansea, API: Norton A J (Heathcote & Coleman), Birmingham, FR, BPF: Nunn T J (Whiting & Partners), Bury St Edmunds, MIC, TAX

O'Brien D A (Deloitte & Touche), London, FR, TAX: O'Brien E A (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, TAX: O'Hara J M (Grant Thornton), Manchester, API, FR, MIC, TAX: Oldfield R G (Menzies), Walton-On-Thames, FR: Oldnall S (Arthur Andersen), Birmingham, BPF, TAX: Ollard M D (Everett & Son), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX: O'Loughlin S (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, FR, BPF, TAX: Osborn H D A (KPMG), London, FR, TAX: Ould D (Blease Lloyd), London, API, FR: Owen D G (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX: Owers S (Gruber Levinson Franks), Manchester, API, FR, BPF

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[صورة من الأصل]

Evidential use of computer printouts

Regina v Governor of Brixton Prison and Another, Ex parte Levin

Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Steyn, Lord Hoffmann and Lord Hutton

[Speeches June 19]

Computer printouts were not be regarded as hearsay because they were proof of transfers of funds and showed a record of such transfers which was created by the interaction between those who requested them and the computer. Evidentially they were like a photocopy of a forged cheque.

Section 69(1) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 provided for an additional requirement for the admissibility of computer printouts in criminal proceedings. The section did not make admissible such evidence as was otherwise inadmissible.

Since orders made in extradition proceedings were made in a criminal cause or matter and section 9(2) of, and paragraph 6(1) of Schedule 1 to the Extradition Act 1989 required extradition proceedings to be conducted "as nearly as may be" as if they were committal proceedings before magistrates, they were criminal proceedings. The magistrate was entitled to apply the normal rules of criminal evidence and procedure.

The House of Lords so held dismissing an appeal by the applicant, Vladimir Levin, from the dismissal of his application for a writ of habeas corpus by the Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Beldam and Mr Justice Morison) (*The Times* March 11, 1996; [1997] QB 65).

On September 20, 1995, Mr R. Bartle, the Bow Street Metropolitan Stipendiary Magistrate, ordered that Mr Levin should be detained at Brixton Prison to await directions of the Home Secretary for his extradition to the United States of America to face 66 charges including theft, forgery, unauthorised access to a computer with intent to commit an offence and false accounting.

Mr Levin applied for a writ of habeas corpus ad subjiciendum directed to the Governor of Brixton Prison. He challenged his committal on the ground, inter alia, that the computer printouts were hearsay and could not be admitted under section 69 of the 1984 Act since that section did not apply to extradition proceedings which were not criminal proceedings.

The United States Government had sought the extradition of Mr Levin to face trial on 66 charges concerning his alleged unauthorised access, by means of his own computer in St Petersburg, Russia, to the computer of Citibank NA in Parsipanny, New Jersey, and transfers of funds into various bank accounts controlled by him and his associates.

Mr Levin was charged before the Federal District Court for the Southern District of New York with the Federal offences of wire fraud and bank fraud and certain offences relating to the misuse of computers.

Section 69 of the 1984 Act provides:

"(1) In any proceedings, a statement in a document produced by a computer shall not be admissible as evidence of any fact stated therein unless it is shown — (a) that there are no reasonable grounds for believing that the statement is inaccurate because of improper use of the computer; (b) that at all material times the computer was operating properly, or if not, that any respect in which it was not operating properly or was out of operation was not such as to affect the production of the document or the accuracy of its contents..."

Mr Alun Jones, QC and Mr James Lewis for Mr Levin; Mr Paul Garlick, QC and Mr David Perry for the Governor of Brixton Prison and the Government of the United States of America.

LORD HOFFMANN said that before the magistrate evidence was given by Mr Byron T. Yancey, executive director of Citibank global cash management services, Mr Kevin L. Shearan, head of technology for cash management systems of Citibank and Mr Korolkov, an accomplice of Mr Levin. The magistrate had computer printouts before him.

Mr Jones submitted that the computer printouts were inadmissible because they were hearsay. In criminal proceedings they would be admissible under section 69 of the 1984 Act but extradition proceedings were held not to be criminal proceedings in *R v Governor of Belmarsh Prison, Ex parte Francis* ([1995] 1 WLR 1121).

The printouts were tendered to prove the transfers of funds which they recorded. They recorded the transfers themselves, created by the interaction between whoever purported to request the transfers and the computer. The evidential status of the printouts was no different from that of a photocopy of a forged cheque.

If the printouts were hearsay, section 69 would not make them admissible. That section did not make admissible any evidence which would otherwise be inadmissible: *R v Shephard* ([1993] AC 380). It was an additional requirement for the admissibility of any statement, original or hearsay, which was produced by a computer.

Extradition proceedings were criminal proceedings. They were, of course, criminal proceedings of a very special kind, but were criminal proceedings nonetheless.

In *Amand v Home Secretary and Minister of Defence of Royal Netherlands Government* ([1943] AC 147) the House approved the Court of Appeal decision in *Ex parte Alice Woodhall* ((1888) 20 QBD 832) that the refusal of an application for habeas corpus by a person committed to prison with a view to extradition was a decision in a criminal cause or matter.

It would follow, a fortiori, that the extradition proceedings themselves were criminal proceedings.

Section 9(2) of and paragraph 6(1) of Schedule 1 to[f] the Extradition Act 1989 required that extradition proceedings should be conducted "as nearly as may be" as if they were committal proceedings before magistrates. Committal proceedings were, of course, criminal proceedings and those provisions would make little sense if the magistrate could not apply the normal rules of criminal evidence and procedure.

Mr Jones submitted that if his first argument failed he would contend that extradition proceedings were indeed criminal proceedings.

It would follow that the magistrate had the discretion conferred by section 78(1) of the 1984 Act to refuse to allow evidence on which the prosecution proposed to rely if it appeared to him that the admission of the evidence would have "such an adverse effect on the fairness of the proceedings that the court ought not to admit it".

When the section was being applied to committal or extradition proceedings, the question was whether the admission of the evidence would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of those proceedings that the court ought not to admit it. The magistrate should ordinarily assume that the powers available to the trial judge would ensure that the proceedings at the trial were fair.

However, in the instant case the magistrate was not asked to exercise a discretion, under the section because *Ex parte Francis* was binding on him. It was doubtful if it was proper to complain that he failed to exercise it.

Lord Goff, Lord Nicholls, Lord Steyn and Lord Hutton agreed.

Solicitors: Reynolds Dawson; Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

Housing duty enforceable only in public law

O'Rourke v Camden London Borough Council

Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Mustill, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead, Lord Steyn and Lord Hoffmann

[Speeches June 12]

A housing authority could not be sued in tort for damages for a breach of its duty under section 63(1) of the Housing Act 1985 to provide temporary accommodation pending inquiries as to whether an applicant was homeless. The duty was enforceable only in public law, by proceedings for judicial review.

The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by Camden London Borough Council from the order of the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Simon Brown and Lord Justice Hutchison) ((1996) 28 HLR 600) reinstating, in an action against the council by the plaintiff, Peter O'Rourke, which Judge Tibber at Central London County Court had struck out, such part of the particulars of claim as related to an alleged breach of statutory duty under section 63(1).

Section 63 of the 1985 Act provides: "(1) If the local housing authority have reason to believe that an applicant may be homeless and have a priority need, they shall secure that accommodation is made available for his occupation pending a decision as a result of their inquiries under section 62."

Section 62 concerns inquiries whether an applicant is homeless and in priority need.

The plaintiff had averred in that part of his claim relating to section 63(1) that, having been placed by the council in temporary accommodation pending a decision but then evicted, no further accommodation had been secured pending the final determination of his application.

Mr Ashley Underwood, Mr Bryan McGuire and Mr Kelvin Rutledge for the council; Mr Richard Drabble, QC and Mr Martin Russell for the plaintiff.

LORD HOFFMANN said that the question was whether section 63(1) created a duty to the plaintiff which was actionable in tort. There was no doubt that, like several other provisions in Part III of the Act, it created a duty which was enforceable by proceedings for judicial review. But whether it gave rise to a cause of action sounding in damages depended upon whether the Act showed a legislative intention to create such a remedy.

There were certain contra-indications. The Act was a scheme of social welfare, intended to confer benefits at the public expense on the ground of public policy. It was not simply a private matter between the claimant and the housing authority.

The fact that Parliament had provided for the expenditure of public money on benefits in kind such as housing the homeless did not necessarily mean that it intended cash payments to be made by way of damages to persons who, in breach of the housing authority's statutory duty, had unfortunately not received the benefits which they should have done.

Second, Part III of the Act made the existence of the duty to provide accommodation dependent upon a good deal of judgment on the part of the housing authority. That made it unlikely that Parliament intended errors of judgment to give rise to an obligation to make financial reparation. Control by public law remedies appeared much more appropriate.

Mr Drabble had said that the question of whether Parliament could have contemplated enforcement of the Part III duties by judicial review rather than private action had to be considered in the light of the state of public law in 1977, when the provisions of Part III were first enacted as the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977. But when the 1977 Act was passed, the machinery for enforcing it by judicial review was in place.

The question of the appropriate remedy for breach of the duties owed under the 1977 Act had been considered by the House in *Cocks v Thanet District Council* ([1983] 2 AC 286). Lord Bridge of Harwich, with whom the other members of the House agreed, decided that no duty in private law could arise until the housing authority had made its inquiries and decided whether or not it was satisfied as to the various matters upon which the existence of the duty depended. Until the authority had declared itself so satisfied, its decision could be challenged only by judicial review.

That had been sufficient to dispose of the appeal. Lord Bridge went on, however, to say that a duty in private law would arise once the housing authority had made a decision in the applicant's favour. The fact that the housing authority was charged with executive functions was treated as sufficient to establish a private law duty. No doubt because the question did not have to be decided, Lord Bridge did not undertake a careful examination of the statutory intent such as he afterwards made in *R v Deputy Governor of Parkhurst Prison, Ex parte Hague* ([1992] 1 AC 58, 157-161). His Lordship felt sure that if he had, he would have expressed a different opinion.

The concept of a duty in private law which arose only when it had been acknowledged to exist was anomalous. It meant that a housing authority which accepted that it had a duty to house the applicant but did so inadequately would be liable in damages but an authority which perversely refused to accept that it had any such duty would not.

Mr Drabble had accepted *Cocks* as authority for the proposition that the Part III duties which depended upon the housing authority being satisfied or not being satisfied as to various matters gave rise to no private cause of action in tort.

But he said that the temporary duty under section 63(1) was different. It did not depend upon the authority being subjectively satisfied. It was framed in objective terms and arose if the authority had reason to believe that the applicant was homeless and had a priority need.

His Lordship recognised the difference in language, although he observed that despite its objective form, the nature of the subject matter might incline a court to allow a housing authority some latitude in deciding whether it had reason to believe the facts giving rise to the duty.

But the main difficulty he had with the argument was that it required the court to suppose that, in an Act imposing a number of important duties which were accepted as enforceable only in public law, Parliament had intended to embed one temporary duty enforceable by a private action in tort. There seemed no rational explanation for such a scheme.

Accordingly, the breach of statutory duty of which the plaintiff complained gave rise to no cause of action in private law. *Thornton v Kirklees Metropolitan Borough Council* ([1979] QB 626) [to contrary effect] was wrongly decided.

Lord Goff, Lord Mustill, Lord Nicholls and Lord Steyn agreed.

Solicitors: Ms Amanda Kelly, Camden; Moss Beachley & Mullen.

Automatic directions apply after pre-trial review

Edmondson v Scottish and Newcastle Breweries plc and Others

Before Lord Justice Brooke and Lord Justice Waller

[Judgment May 22]

Where a district judge caused a notice in Form N233 to be sent to parties in an action for the purposes set out in Order 17, rule 10 of the County Court Rules that in itself did not disapply automatic directions.

The Court of Appeal so stated in a reserved judgment when dismissing an appeal by Ryan Edmondson, the plaintiff, against an order of Judge Brown in Workington County Court on August 9, 1996 that his personal injury action against Scottish and Newcastle Breweries plc, the defendants, and Mr M. Black and Mr R. Bailey, third parties, be struck out.

The district judge had not been satisfied with the defence served and had issued a notice in Form N233 for directions. The district judge, at the parties' request, had ordered adjournment of the directions hearing sine die. On delivery of a satisfactory defence the court had notified the parties that automatic directions would apply.

The judge had found that the district judge had ordered a pre-trial review but it had been adjourned sine die and no directions were given which were incompatible with automatic directions.

Mr Roger Stewart for the appellant; Mr Richard Craven for the company; Mr Kevin J. O'Donovan for the third parties.

LORD JUSTICE BROOKE, giving the judgment of the court, did not accept the submission by Mr O'Donovan that a court could only make an order that a pre-trial review be held, so as to disapply automatic directions pursuant to rule 11 2(a), after pleadings were deemed to be closed.

Their Lordships could envisage a district judge making such an order in a multi-defendant case where some defendants had not been served and were not likely to be served.

And there might, on occasion, be a fine line to be drawn between a case in which a district judge directed that a notice should be given to the parties requiring them to appear before him for the purposes specified in Order 17, rule 10 and a case in which he made a clear order that a pre-trial review be held.

But their Lordships were under a duty to try to give practical effect to the troublesome rule, and it appeared that it would be absurd that in every case where a district judge caused a notice in Form N233 to be sent to the parties for the purposes set out in rule 10, that ipso facto disapplied automatic directions even if the district judge was almost immediately persuaded by the responses to the form notice that no specific directions were needed at all and that automatic directions could continue to run.

If a plaintiff asserted that he had been genuinely and reasonably misled by the notice in Form N233, then that would give grounds for reinstatement under *Bannister v SGB plc* (*The Times* May 2) but no such suggestion was made in the present case.

Solicitors: Coates & Co, Leeds; Hay & Kilner, Newcastle upon Tyne; Moore & Emery, Carlisle.

Agricultural notice to quit valid

National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty v Knipe and Another

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Pill and Lord Justice Judge

[Judgment May 15]

Premises let as an agricultural holding, even if there was a dwelling upon the holding, did not constitute premises let as a dwelling for the purposes of section 5 of the Protection from Eviction Act 1977.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by the landlord, National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, against a decision of Mr Recorder Briggs sitting at Lancaster County Court whereby he dismissed the landlord's claim for possession of an agricultural holding against the tenants, Ronald Richard Knipe and Richard George Knipe, on the ground that the notice to quit was defective because it did not include the information prescribed by section 5 of the 1977 Act.

Section 5 provides: "(1) ... no notice by a landlord or a tenant to quit any premises let ... as a dwelling shall be valid unless — (a) it is in writing and contains such information as may be prescribed...

"(2) In this section 'prescribed' means prescribed by regulations..."

Mr Derek Wood, QC and Mr William Blatstone, solicitor, for the landlord; Mr Paul Morgan, QC and Mr Stephen Jourdan for the tenants.

LORD JUSTICE PILL said the information prescribed by section 5 was quite inappropriate to an agricultural tenancy.

Although the subject matter of the letting included a dwelling, section 5 could not be read as if it used the expression "premises which include a dwelling" or "any dwelling house let as part of premises".

It followed that the notice to quit was valid and was not rendered invalid by the absence of a notice containing the prescribed information.

LORD JUSTICE JUDGE, concurring, said that the notice to quit had complied meticulously with the provisions of the Agricultural Holdings Act 1986 which provided the statutory foundation of the system designed to protect agricultural tenants from unreasonable, oppressive or precipitate notices to quit.

For the purposes of the 1986 Act an "agricultural holding" was the aggregate of the land, whether agricultural or not, comprised in a contract tenancy which was a contract for an agricultural tenancy not being a contract under which the land was let to the tenant for the purpose of his employment or any other appointment by the landlord.

The crucial question was whether the actual or contemplated use of the land was agricultural.

That definition was not on its face apt to describe "any premises let as a dwelling" within section 5 of the 1977 Act.

In his Lordship's judgment the instant tenancy of an agricultural holding included a dwelling house used as a residence within section 1 of the 1977 Act but the dwelling house did not amount to premises let as a dwelling within section 5.

Lord Justice Butler-Sloss agreed.

Solicitors: Burges Salmon, Bristol; Cartmell Shepherd, Carlisle.

Newspaper photograph practice unjustified and unlawful

Banier v News Group Newspapers Ltd

Banier v Times Newspapers Ltd

The common newspaper practice, after one newspaper had published a copyright photograph, of other newspapers publishing it without waiting for the grant of a licence by the copyright owner in the expectation of paying retrospectively an appropriate licence fee, was unjustified and unlawful.

Mr Justice Lightman so held in the Chancery Division on June 19 when granting summary judgment to François-Marie Banier, the photographer and owner of the copyright in a photograph of Princess Caroline of Monaco published in *The Sun* against News Group Newspapers Ltd, on an application under Order 14 of the Rules of the Supreme Court for a declaration of his entitlement to the copyright, an injunction to restrain infringement and an inquiry as to damages in respect of the publication without licence.

The plaintiff's action against *The Times*, which had previously published the photograph, was ordered to continue to trial.

MR JUSTICE LIGHTMAN *said that newspapers might normally get away with their common practice.*

The risk of infringement proceedings might be from a business and circulation point of view worth taking. It might be economic to publish and be damned.

But it was plainly unjustified and unlawful and the sooner that was recognised the better for all concerned. The adoption of that practice was not a passport to infringe copyright.

News Group Newspapers had *failed to establish the defence of fair dealing within section 30 of the* Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, *or any other defence.*

Accountants' credit list continued

Continued from page 26

Rowland), London, API, FR, MIC, bpf; Powell H A (Pannell Kerr Forster), Nottingham, API, FR, MIC; Powell R (Dean Statham), Newcastle, FR, tax; Poyton D W (KPMG), Birmingham, FR, MIC, TAX; Preest B G (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff, MIC, BPF; Prescott M R A (Price Waterhouse), London, API, BPF; Preuveneers S E J (KPMG), London, API, MIC, TAX; Price C A (Coopers & Lybrand), Cardiff, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Pringle S C (Cheesman and Partners), London, API, FR; Punj S (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham, API, FR; Puri V (Maurice J Bushell & Co), London, API

Quill S F (Price Waterhouse), Douglas, fr, BPF, tax; Quinton E J (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Qureshi R (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX

Ree H (Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P), Douglas, api, FR, TAX; Raghu R (KPMG), Bristol, api, FR, BPF; Rainford B A J (BDO Stoy Hayward), Ewell, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Rajabali M H (Chancellers), Watford, FR; Rajvanshi R (McBrides), Sidcup, API, FR, BPF; Raniwala A A (Knox Cropper), London, FR; Rawal M N (Fisher, Sassoon & Marks), London, FR, TAX; Redfern N C (Ernst & Young), Norwich, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Reese A M (KPMG), Milton Keynes, API, FR; Reyat S K (Daffern & Co), Coventry, FR, BPF, TAX; Rhodes P A (Moores Rowland), Walsall, API, FR, TAX; Richard W (Clark Whitehill), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Richards J B (Barnes H L & Sons), Coventry, API, TAX; Richardson D J (Price Waterhouse), Newcastle Upon Tyne, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Richardson D J (Shipleys), London, FR, MIC, TAX; Riley T M (Deloitte & Touche), Cardiff, FR, BPF; Ringham E J (KPMG), Manchester, API, FR, BPF, TAX; [illegible]da P J (Ernst & Young), Jersey, [illegible] MIC, BPF, TAX; Rissik A H (Price Waterhouse), London, API, [illegible]; Rivers A M (Deloitte & Touche), St Albans, API, FR, BPF, [illegible]; Roberts C C (Binder Hamlyn), London, API, FR, TAX; Roberts M J (Solomon Hare), Bristol, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Roberts [illegible] (Hacker Young), Manchester, [illegible] FR, TAX; Robertson G J (Arthur Andersen), Manchester, [illegible] MIC, BPF, TAX; Robertson G [illegible] (Deloitte & Touche), London, FR, [illegible] BPF, TAX; Robertson J B (Price Waterhouse), Bristol, API, [illegible] MIC, TAX; Robertson K ([illegible]and & Co), Widnes, FR, MIC; [illegible]son J A (Ernst & Young), [illegible] api, FR, mic, tax; Robinson [illegible] ([illegible]end-James), Brighton, API; [illegible]son M S (Moores Rowland), [illegible]ington, FR; Robson D (Price Waterhouse), Leeds, API; Rocca S C (Arthur Andersen), Leeds, FR, MIC, [illegible] TAX; Roper E R (Coopers & Lybrand), Uxbridge, API, FR, MIC, [illegible]; Roper N M (KPMG), London, [illegible] BPF; Rose A J (Bentley [illegible]son), Stoke-On-Trent, API, [illegible]; Ross A W (Barber, Harrison & Platt), Sheffield, API, FR, BPF, TAX; [illegible]lett L (Moore Thompson), [illegible]lding, fr, BPF; Ruellan S (Deloitte & Touche), Jersey, API, [illegible] MIC, TAX; Rughani M C ([illegible]die Deyong), London, API, FR, TAX

Sabaratnam S (Coopers & Lybrand), Cambridge, FR, MIC, bpf, TAX; Sackey J E (James & Cowper), Reading, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Saebnoori S (Hacker Young), Bristol, fr, BPF; Salisbury J C (KPMG), Manchester, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Saunders A C (Williams Allan), Windsor, API, FR; Saunders C R (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds, API, FR, TAX; Saunders H R (Dixon Wilson), London, TAX; Saunders O G T (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Savage A L (Ernst & Young), Southampton, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Savage K J (BDO Stoy Hayward), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Scanlon J (Bryden, Johnson & Co), Croydon, FR; Schwalbe H (Charles Frieze & Co), Manchester, FR, MIC, tax; Scoles L (O'Hara Wood), Bath, API, FR, TAX; Seagrove K G (Beer Aplin), Exeter, API, MIC, TAX; Seaton M D (Coopers & Lybrand), Leeds, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Segal A D (Maurice Apple), London, api, fr, BPF; Senior I E (Newman & Partners), London, api, fr, MIC; Shah A (KPMG), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Shah H S M (Flemmings), Croydon, FR, bpf, tax; Shah K (Sayers Butterworth), London, API, FR, MIC; Shah R J (Pannell Kerr Forster), Leicester, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Sharma A K (GEC Alsthom T&D Protection & Control LTD), Stafford, TAX; Sharma V (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Shaw K P (Cooper Lancaster Brewers), London, fr, bpf, TAX; Shaw R J (Foulds & Grant), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Shears S J (KPMG), Southampton, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Sher C M (Rees Pollock), London, FR, BPF, TAX; Sherriff J M (Coopers & Lybrand), Southampton, MIC; Sherwood P A (Kidsons Impey), Hove, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Shewry T D (Ernst & Young), Bristol, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Shilling R E (Sheen Stickland), Farnham, FR, MIC, TAX; Shingler F (Gruber Levinson Franks), Warrington, API, FR, TAX; Shirley G M (Neville Russell), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Shore G (Deloitte & Touche), Manchester, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Shorten E K (Grant Thornton), Bedford, api, fr, MIC; Shortman G E (Freeman Baker), St Albans, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Shuck J A (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Siddiqi A (Pridie Brewster), London, api, fr, BPF, tax; Siddiqui A (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, TAX; Sidney P C (Deloitte & Touche), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Simons S G (KPMG), London, API, MIC, BPF, TAX; Simpson C L (KPMG), Birmingham, FR, BPF, TAX; Simpson P D (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, fr, MIC, BPF, TAX; Sinclair J A (James & Cowper), Newbury, api, fr, TAX; Sinton E L (Ernst & Young), Ipswich, BPF, TAX; Siviter C S (Deloitte & Touche), Southampton, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Skippings A C (Price Waterhouse), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Sleight M J (Barber, Harrison & Platt), Sheffield, API, FR; Sleightholme C (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Smeaton R (Kingston Smith), Upminster, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Smith C I (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Smith D O (Cotton & Co), Daventry, MIC, TAX; Smith J A (Ernst & Young), Jersey, API, FR, TAX; Smith J C (Arthur Andersen), Nottingham, FR, MIC, TAX; Smith J A (Moore Stephens), Guildford, API, FR, BPF; Smith K A (Monahans, Ledbury, Martin), Swindon, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Smith K A (Baker Tilly), London, FR; Smith M P N (Deloitte & Touche), Bracknell, API, BPF, TAX; Smith N M (KPMG), Manchester, FR, BPF, TAX; Smith S J (KPMG), London, API, FR, BPF; Smith S A (Grant Thornton), Milton Keynes, API, fr, mic, TAX; Smyth J L D (KPMG), Swindon, API, BPF; Spanomanoli A (Shipleys), London, api, fr, BPF, TAX; Spice H L (Fraser Russell), Guildford, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Spiliotopoulou P (Price Waterhouse), London, FR, MIC, TAX; Spratt A J (Robson Rhodes), London, FR, MIC, TAX; Stanion J L (KPMG), Manchester, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Steiner D M (KPMG), London, FR, MIC; Stephens E N (Deloitte & Touche), Cardiff, API, FR, TAX; Still S A (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Stockham N M (Coopers & Lybrand), Northampton, FR, BPF, TAX; Storrie A F (Deloitte & Touche), London, API, FR, TAX; Stott M M (Price Waterhouse), Manchester, fr, mic, BPF, tax; Strachan N G (Coopers & Lybrand), London, FR, BPF; Strong E C (Blick Rothenberg), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Sturgess M W (Newby Castleman), Leicester, API, MIC, TAX; Sturgess T G (Gibson Booth), Barnsley, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Sud S P (KPMG), London, API, fr, BPF, TAX; Summerfield L K (Deloitte & Touche), Cardiff, BPF; Sundaralingam V (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API; Sutton A T O (Price Waterhouse), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Sutton A J (KPMG), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Swainston A N (Frank Brown & Walford), Middlesbrough, FR, MIC

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Ullmer D L (Moores Rowland), Walsall, API, FR, TAX; Unsted P J (Deloitte & Touche), London, API, FR

Valentine J E (Grant Thornton), Portsmouth, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Vane A C T (BDO Stoy Hayward), Richmond, FR, TAX; Vaughan C M (Chantrey Vellacott), London, FR, MIC; Veillard A R (Ernst & Young), Guernsey, FR, BPF; Vickery E L (Pannell Kerr Forster), London, API, FR; Vincent R (Price Waterhouse), Birmingham, fr, MIC, TAX; Vohra S (KPMG), Crawley, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Volsey N F (Price Waterhouse), St Albans, FR

Wah Y S (Jeffreys Henry), London, FR, TAX; Walduck A H (Dixon Wilson), London, api, fr, MIC, tax; Walker G P (Cooper-Parry), Nottingham, FR, mic, TAX; Wallis S L (Newby Castleman), Leicester, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Walters P N (Duncan & Toplis), Boston, API, FR, BPF; Ward J H (Wilder Coe), London, API, FR; Ward K F (Coopers & Lybrand), Southampton, FR, BPF; Warrilow O (KPMG), Manchester, FR, BPF; Watt S K (Price Waterhouse), Windsor, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Watts K E (Whitmarsh Sterland), Cambridge, API, FR, TAX; Weaver M R (KPMG), Bristol, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Weaver R J (Whittingham Riddell), Shrewsbury, FR, MIC, TAX; Webber J (Ernst & Young), Exeter, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Webster A B (Ernst & Young), London, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Weems M A (Pannell Kerr Forster), Manchester, FR, TAX; Weston A C (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, api, fr, BPF, TAX; Weston C H (KPMG), Birmingham, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Weston D J (Pannell Kerr Forster), Nottingham, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Wharton R M (Dodd & Co), Carlisle, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Wheatley O J (Coopers & Lybrand), Manchester, API, MIC; White J (Lewis Golden & Co), London, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Whitehouse J P (Deloitte & Touche), Birmingham, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Whiteside J P (Arthur Andersen), London, BPF, TAX; Whiting A (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, TAX; Whittern S L (KPMG), Birmingham, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Wigg A M (Robson Rhodes), Hemel Hempstead, API, FR, TAX; Wilkinson G J C (KPMG), Bradford, api, fr, mic, TAX; Wilkinson L A (Ernst & Young), London, FR, TAX; Williams A Y Y (Coopers & Lybrand), Reading, API, fr, TAX; Williams B (Price Waterhouse), Jersey, FR, MIC; Williams H L (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Williams R J (Hughes Allen), London, API, FR, MIC; Williams S J (KPMG), Bradford, API, FR, BPF; Williamson H (Neville Russell), London, API, fr, BPF, TAX; Williamson M (KPMG), Guernsey, BPF; Willis C P A (KPMG), St Albans, API, FR, TAX; Willox Y (Bristow Burrell), Guildford, fr, mic, BPF, tax; Wilson G R (KPMG), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Wilson J D (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, MIC; Wilson M P (Pannell Kerr Forster), Manchester, API; Wilson N P (Price Waterhouse), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Winter D L (Armstrong Watson & Co), Carlisle, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Winters E (Robson Rhodes), Birmingham, FR, MIC, BPF, TAX; Winyard T (Binder Hamlyn), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Wise K (James & Cowper), Newbury, API, MIC, BPF, TAX; Witkover P D (Rayner Essex), St Albans, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Wolter K (Neville Russell), London, API, FR; Wood A S (Moore Stephens), Guildford, API; Wood E M (Clark Whitehill), Manchester, api, fr, BPF, TAX; Wood H C (Harper Broom Roberts), Maidenhead, API, FR; Wooddisse I (Barrow, Bartlett & Stanbury), Barnstaple, FR, MIC; Wood-Roe N W C (Arthur Andersen), London, MIC, TAX; Woods J (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Woodside J N I (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, MIC, TAX; Woolhouse S A (Coopers & Lybrand), London, API, FR, BPF; Woollison J Y (Coopers & Lybrand), Milton Keynes, FR; Worrall R (Coopers & Lybrand), Birmingham, FR, BPF, TAX; Worthington M A (Deloitte & Touche), London, FR, TAX; Wright M L (Coopers & Lybrand), Bristol, API, FR, MIC, BPF; Wrighton N R (Cooper-Parry), Nottingham, API, FR, MIC, TAX

Yoshida C (Ernst & Young), London, API, FR, BPF, TAX; Young W S (Lings), Derby, API, FR

Zainudin I S (Shelley Simmons Pinnick & Co), London, API, fr, bpf, TAX; Zakariya A (Hardy & Company), London, API, fr, mic, tax

Causing annoyance by flying

Regina v Paine

The mens rea required for causing annoyance by flying was an intention so to fly or recklessness whether such annoyance was caused.

The Courts-Martial Appeal Court (Lord Justice Stuart-Smith, Mr Justice Forbes and Mr Justice Eady) so stated on May 23 when allowing the appeal of Flight Lieutenant Nicholas Paine against his conviction on March 14, 1996, at a General Court Martial at Leeming of flying an aircraft so as to cause or being likely to cause unnecessary annoyance to any person, contrary to section 52 of the Air Force Act 1955 for which he was sentenced to a fine of £500 and a severe reprimand.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said that the Assistant Judge Advocate General was right to hold that *mens rea* was a necessary element of the offence, but he was wrong to direct the members of the court martial that the relevant mental state was that the accused "knew or ought to have known" that what he did would cause or be likely to cause unnecessary annoyance.

The necessary mens rea was an intention to fly so as to cause or be likely to cause annoyance or recklessness as to whether annoyance was or was likely to be caused, and that as to the meaning of recklessness, the approach of the Court of Appeal in *R v Kimber* ([1983] 77 Cr App R 225) was to be preferred to that in *R v Caldwell* ([1982] AC 341) and *R v Lawrence* ([1982] AC 510).

Assigning categories for handling waste

Regina v Environment Agency, Ex parte Dockgrange Ltd and Another

Before Mr Justice Carnwath

[Judgment May 22]

On the proper interpretation of EC Regulation 259/93 (OJ 1993 L30/1), which regulated the shipment of waste for recovery, a mixture of imported waste materials, all of which were individually assigned to the green list of the least harmless material, was not by reason of the fact of mixture alone to be treated as unassigned waste which was subject to the more restrictive red list procedures.

Mr Justice Carnwath sitting as an additional judge of the Queen's Bench Division so ruled allowing an application by Dockgrange Ltd and Mayer Parry Ltd for judicial review by way of a declaration in respect of the decisions/policy of the Environment Agency to take enforcement action against them from October 1996.

Mr Michael Fordham and Mr Richard Macrory for the applicants; Mr James Findlay for the agency.

MR JUSTICE CARNWATH said that the applicants were concerned in the importation of specific types of waste for the purpose of metal recovery. The recovered metal was sold to scrap dealers and the unwanted material was sent to landfills. The imported waste had been through various processes at plants in Holland and Germany and the activities in the United Kingdom were the last stage in the cycle.

Council Directive 75/442/EEC (OJ 1975 L194/39) of July 15, 1975 laid down the requirement for an integrated system of control of waste disposal installations in member states. Its preamble emphasised the need to protect human health and the environment against the harmful effects of the collection, transport and treatment of waste but it also emphasised that "the recovery of waste and the use of recovered materials should be encouraged in order to conserve natural resources".

The preamble to Regulation 259/93 explained that its purpose was the need to "organise the supervision and control of shipments of waste [so as to] preserve, protect and improve the quality of the environment".

The shipments of waste for recovery were regulated by listing three categories of assigned waste, green, amber and red, which attracted differing degrees of regulatory control. The green wastes were were regarded as posing the least environmental problems and attracted the least restrictive regime.

The annexes contained detailed lists respectively of green, amber and red wastes. For green wastes no prior notification of the authority was required but the shipments had to be accompanied by certain information such as the name and address of the holder and the consignee and the usual commercial description of the waste. Red wastes and unassigned wastes were governed by article 10, which provided more strict controls.

It was Dockgrange's case that the waste which it imported fell within the green list because each constituent of the waste mixture could be identified as one listed in the relevant annexe.

Thus one mixture comprised aluminium, magnesium, rubber and plastic, and small quantities of gold, silver, wood and fabric each of which was specified in the annexe. From April 1994 they imported those mixtures under the green list procedure.

In August 1996 the Environment Agency, which was established under the Environment Act 1995, indicated to Dockgrange that "car fragmentiser waste" was not listed in the annexes and therefore had to be treated as unassigned waste and the red list procedure applied.

The only element of fragmentiser waste which was separately assigned to the amber list was in fact removed by the first stage of the recovery cycle after shredding and was not imported by Dockgrange. It was imported by Mayer Parry but treated as a separate item under the amber list.

Following that decision Dockgrange had not imported any waste mixtures not only because of the delay caused by the need to obtain consent before despatch but also because of the differences of view between the different countries. The German authorities traditionally treated the different waste mixtures from fragmentisers as green waste and were therefore reluctant to process a red list notification.

His Lordship said that often the court was reluctant to make declarations where it would preempt the decision of the criminal court charged with the facts of a particular case.

However, in this case no criminal proceedings had yet been commenced and it was vitally important for all parties to know what the legal position was so that they could order their affairs accordingly. It was therefore appropriate to rule on the issue.

There was nothing in article 10 itself which said that wastes could not be mixed. If one simply applied the words to the present case the individual components of the mixture were all listed in annexe II and it could not therefore be said that they were shipments of wastes which had not been assigned in the annexe.

It would be different if the combined mixture itself were the subject of separate listing in one of the annexes. This was a case where the individual wastes in the mixture could be adequately identified as harmless and where there could be substantial compliance with the obligation to state their quantities.

At the end of the day it would be a matter for a criminal court before which a prosecution was instituted to determine whether the regulations had been sufficiently complied with.

But it was appropriate for the agency, as principal prosecuting authority, to have a policy on the matter. A court was likely to be guided by its expert view.

There was in his Lordship's view more flexibility within the system than the agency's policy allowed. In particular, the degree of accuracy required in specifying quantities of individual components, at least in green list cases, was a matter on which the agency could allow some latitude, consistently with the objects of the regulation.

Nothing was more likely to bring disrepute on the systems of control under the European Treaty than over-rigid application of the criteria resulting in needless hardship.

Solicitors: Denton Hall; Mr Jonathan Hofton, Southwark.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Aitken may face perjury trial

■ Jonathan Aitken, 54, the disgraced former Cabinet Minister, faced the threat of imprisonment for perjury and perverting the course of justice after dramatically abandoning his libel trial when he was caught lying. The former Chief Secretary to the Treasury will have to pay over £2 million in costs after being forced to drop his High Court action against *The Guardian* and Granada Television. He was in hiding last night .. **Pages 1, 2, 3**

Parkinson is new Tory Party chairman

■ William Hague gave John Redwood an important job in his Shadow Cabinet as he astonished the political world by bringing back Lord Parkinson as party chairman. The top jobs were given to rightwingers.. **Pages 1, 4**

Records smashed

Tennis rackets, trophies and trinkets owned by the British Wimbledon champion Fred Perry broke world records when they fetched £300,000 .... **Page 1**

Kray guilty

Charlie Kray, 70, faces the rest of his life in prison after being convicted of masterminding a £39 million cocaine deal .... **Page 5**

Blair peace plea

Tony Blair appealed to the American people to stop giving money for Ulster terrorism as he sought backing for a fresh peace initiative............................... **Page 6**

Prince of cheeses

The Prince of Wales is to be asked to help to save hundreds of traditional cheeses .... **Page 7**

War memorial

A soldier shot for cowardice in 1917 will have his name added to the roll of honour on his home town's war memorial .... **Page 9**

Death fall damages

A mountain guide was ordered to pay damages of up to £200,000 to the young son of a client killed in a fall in the French Alps..... **Page 10**

Hero monk

A security guard who rescued a baby caught in last year's IRA bombing of Manchester is to become a monk..................... **Page 11**

Beijing protest

Beijing police ended a demonstration by more than 200 people. It was the first mass protest in the city since Tiananmen ....**Page 13**

Summit clash

Tension between the US and Japan over trade will be a central theme at the Denver economic summit .... **Pages 14, 15**

Bosnia 'arms plot'

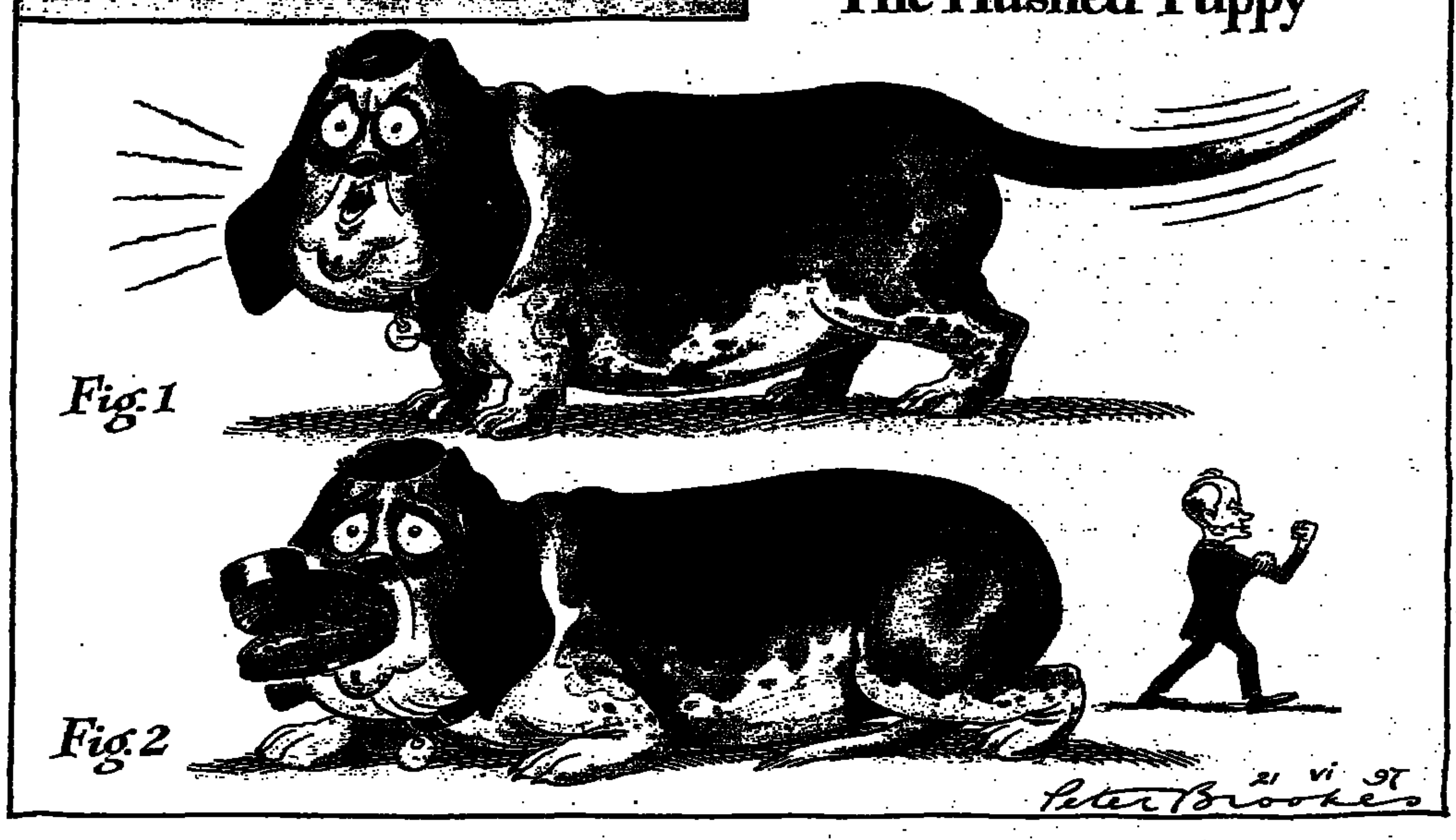
Detectives say Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb warlord, tried to acquire some of the world's most deadly weapons .... **Page 16**

World is being overtaken by cars

■ The number of cars in use worldwide is forecast to rise to 500 million next year. Tony Juniper, a delegate at the UN environment summit in New York, said: "There are more cars in Britain than in sub-Saharan Africa, India and China." .. **Page 7**

NATURE NOTES

The Hushed Puppy



Peter Brookes 21 vi 97

OPINION

Sword of truth: Politicians have to be more scrupulous than other people, not less. Failure to recognise that was Mr Aitken's abiding mistake .... **Page 21**

Down to Earth: Western countries should offer financial incentives to investors in renewable energy sources. But the planet could do without any more hot air from Earth Summit II ...... **Page 21**

LETTERS

Hague's victory; shipping forecast; formal forms of address .... **Page 21**

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: Pandemonium has broken out over a proposed Centre for Islamic Studies in Oxford. The backers are the royal houses of Brunei and Saudi Arabia. Why does money grow on such prickly trees? ... **Page 20**

Amitai Etzioni: An important motto of the election campaign was "responsibility for all" .... **Page 20**

OBITUARIES

Heather Child, artist and author; **Rev John Gardiner,** Secretary, Joint Intelligence Committee; **Lord Calthorpe,** airline owner .... **Page 23**

BUSINESS

Sterling surges: The pound reached its highest since leaving the European exchange rate mechanism as speculation grew that the Bank of England is set to make hefty interest rate rises ..... **Page 29**

Football pitch: A British company became the owner of the current holders of the Italian version of the FA Cup .... **Page 29**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index fell 59.8 to close at 4593.9. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose from 100.4 to 101.2 after a rise from $1.6463 to $1.6539 and DM2.8395 to DM2.8647 .... **Page 32**

SPORT

Tennis: Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski won their quarter-finals in the Nottingham Open unseen by spectators. The games moved inside because of rain .... **Page 56**

Rugby union: The untried British Isles front five face a test of mettle in the first international against South Africa in Cape Town.... **Pages 54, 56**

Cricket: Australia struck the first blows in the rain-hit Lord's Test .... **Page 56**

Racing: Gary Stevens, the leading American jockey, rode his first winner in England at Royal Ascot.. **Page 50**

ARTS

Women in port: works of art that every yacht owner wants .... **Page 18**

Dome of doom: Richard Morrison hates a building that does not even exist .... **Page 19**

Superlatives: Benedict Nightingale sees subtlety in *Amy's View* ...... **Page 19**

Big issue: Jeremy Kingston finds *The Twilight of the Golds* is an old-fashioned play .... **Page 19**

Jet car .... **Page 10**

SECTIONS

MAGAZINE

Unbridled passion: Why we love horses .... **Page 8**

Owzat! 100 greatest cricketers .... **Page 23**

Child crime .... **Page 14**

Weekend

Cricket wives: The women who make teas . **Pages 1, 2**

Property: Garage conversion; agent fees **Pages 7-10**

Travel: America; Greece; Spain; Gower **Pages 17-23**

10 15

Tennis queen: Meet Martina Hingis .... **Page 6**

Win: A mountain bike .... **Page 3**

directory

Inside Track: Money in snow .... **Pages 4-5**

Books .... **Pages 9-14**

What's on .... **Pages 15-19**

TV and radio Pages 23-51

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,512

A £20 book token will be awarded to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The names of the winners and the solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....

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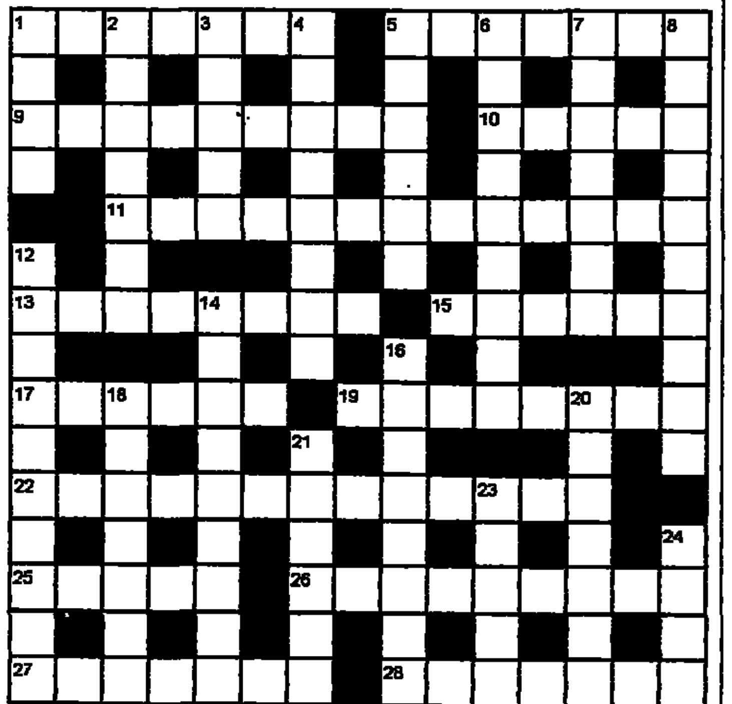

ACROSS

1 Amateur criminal runs gambling scheme (7).
5 Motorway that is wide in the middle of US region (7).
9 Drops flying, meaning to go on car ride (9).
10 India's ready to take nothing from Europe, possibly (5).
11 Family Shylock couldn't get together (5,3,5).
13 Excise allowance, bringing strain to holiday (3,5).
15 Chap taking endless gin as an aid to meditation (6).
17 Complaint Lord rejected, seizing what's originally Greek (6).
19 Source of narcotic buccaneer found on island (8).
22 Normal style of building (13).
25 Faith the continental put in ideology (5).
26 Get ring here, perhaps, then elope in confusion (9).
27 Man who deals with coats rejects theatre role (7).
28 Irritable if called in to bear witness (7).

DOWN

1 Unguarded spots (4).
2 Reasonable message in general for Parliament (7).
3 Chapter-house? (5).
4 Channel's depth is a problem (8).
5 Foreign character getting on top of insignificant action by rebels (6).
6 Missile target offering opportunities for multiple success (9).
7 Feat of former pilot — look, getting higher than I (7).
8 Currently overwhelmed, take steps to keep one's head up (5,5).
12 Support head's position (10).
14 It shows highs and lows putting end to investment girl set up (6,3).
16 Knight using weapon a good deal (8).
18 Turn stream of water on a big bruiser (7).
20 Such reasoning excellent to trap religious leader (1,6).
21 Express runner, say, tired out, inhaling oxygen (6).
23 Some Europeans decline to speak (5).
24 See below river bank (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,506

```
CRADLESONG LAIC
O G E U O B L L
HOOHA MINNESOTA
A N V M P R O M
BRIDEWELL KAFKA
I S W R U E   N
TOTTERY SOLICIT
  I L     E L  
BUCOLIC BOYHOOD
E   A A I S S U
LEVEL PIPSQUEAK
L I O E L U C E
JUVENILIA AWARD
A I E I N R L O
RUDD ANTEBELLUM
```

Solution to Puzzle No 20,511

```
UNIT COWCATCHER
P N   Z A R A E
TIDE FOUNDATION
O U P N D D R O
DISCOVERY ENDOW
A T P   T S O N
TURNUPTRUMPS   
E Y L A F E P C
   JACKETPOTATO
C S R E   P S N
ALOOF PARALYTIC
M R R L I E I E
PERSONABLE SCAR
U E N C L   H T
SPLATTERED VETO
```

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *C Bennett, Battersea Church Road, London; D Quinn, Littlemore, Oxford; S & H Cieslik, Itton, Chepstow; P J Brooks, Reading, Berkshire; J & S Howard, Langney Point, Eastbourne, East Sussex.*

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY
Sun rises: 4.43 am
Sun sets: 9.22 pm
Moon sets 5.44 am
Moon rises 9.39 pm

Last quarter June 27

London 9.22 pm to 4.43 am
Bristol 9.31 pm to 4.52 am
Edinburgh 9.03 pm to 4.27 am
Manchester 9.42 pm to 4.40 am
Penzance 9.36 pm to 5.12 am

TOMORROW
Sun rises: 4.43 am
Sun sets: 9.22 pm
Moon sets 6.48 am
Moon rises 10.27 pm

Last quarter June 27

London 9.22 pm to 4.44 am
Bristol 9.31 pm to 4.54 am
Edinburgh 10.03 pm to 4.27 am
Manchester 9.42 pm to 4.40 am
Penzance 9.36 pm to 5.13 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	02.48	6.9	15.10	7.1
Aberdeen	02.16	4.2	14.43	4.1
Avonmouth	08.18	13.1	20.42	13.4
Belfast	-	-	12.12	3.3
Cardiff	08.04	12.1	20.28	12.4
Devonport	06.54	5.3	19.15	5.5
Dover	-	-	12.07	6.6
Dublin (N Wall)	00.20	4.0	12.49	3.9
Falmouth	06.25	5.1	18.46	5.3
Greenock	01.40	3.3	13.50	3.1
Harwich	00.49	4.0	13.10	4.0
Holyhead	11.30	5.4	23.48	5.7
Hull (Albert D)	07.24	8.5	19.49	8.4
Ilfracombe	07.03	9.0	19.25	9.2
King's Lynn	07.28	6.6	19.52	6.5
Leith	03.33	5.4	16.04	5.4
Liverpool	00.01	9.4	12.24	9.3
Lowestoft	10.33	2.5	23.00	2.4
Margate	00.52	4.8	13.15	4.7
Milford Haven	07.17	6.7	19.39	7.0
Newquay	06.08	6.8	18.30	7.0
Oban	06.48	3.8	19.15	4.0
Penzance	05.36	5.3	18.00	5.5
Portland	08.12	1.9	20.30	2.1
Portsmouth	00.04	4.6	12.33	4.5
Shoreham	-	-	12.25	6.0
Southampton	11.56	4.5	-	-
Swansea	07.28	9.2	19.48	9.5
Tees	04.39	5.3	17.05	5.3
Walton-on-N	00.42	4.1	13.03	4.1

All times BST Heights in metres

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Lossiemouth, Moray, 19C (66F); lowest day max: Glenanne, Co Armagh, 10C (50F); highest rainfall: Capel Curig, Gwynedd, 0.71in; highest sunshine: Tiree, Hebrides, 11hr

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 41.2% of the raw material for UK newspapers in the first half of 1996

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will have a lot of cloud with only brief bright or sunny intervals. Although some parts will start dry, showers will soon develop, heavy and thundery in places.

Over Scotland and Northern Ireland all but the north of Scotland are expected to start wet. Southern Scotland will turn brighter with showers but in northern Scotland the early brightness will fade as rain moves north. Generally cool.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, Midlands, E England, Channel Isles, SW England, S Wales:** brief bright intervals between frequent heavy showers or longer spells of rain. Wind SW fresh to strong. Max 17-19C (63-66F).

☐ **N Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Central N England, NE England:** mainly dry start but showers soon developing. A few sunny intervals. Wind variable light. Max 15-17C. (59-63F).

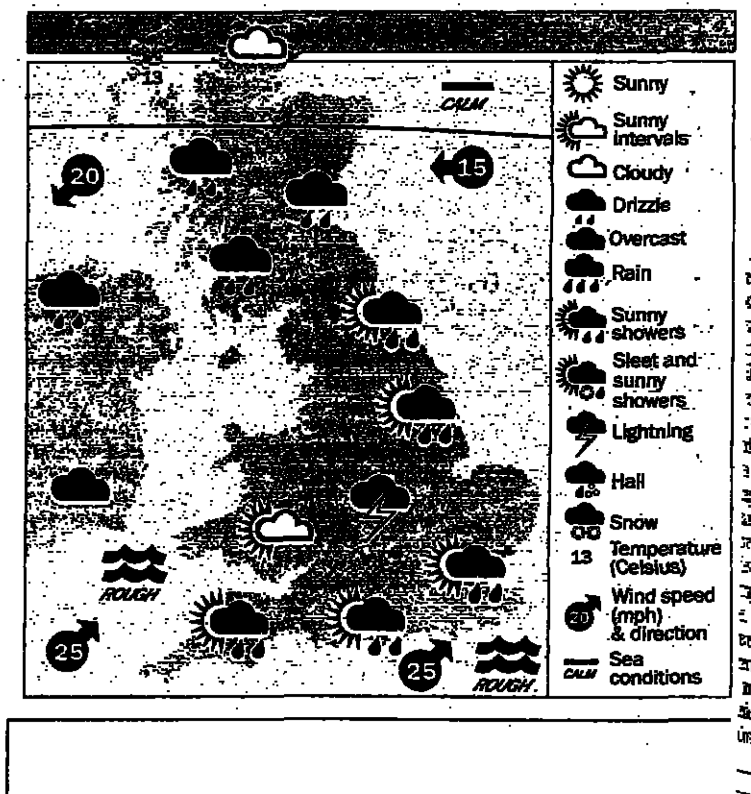
☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow:** early rain clearing slowly to brighter showery weather. Wind E fresh or strong. Max 14-16C (57-61F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** bright with occasional showers at first becoming increasingly cloudy with rain spreading from south. Wind E or NE fresh or strong. Max 14C (57F).

☐ **N Ireland:** rain persistent at first slowly becoming light and more intermittent.

☐ **Outlook:** showers or longer spells of rain becoming brighter and drier during Monday.

☐ **Pollen:** low in all regions (supplied by the Pollen Research Unit).



AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

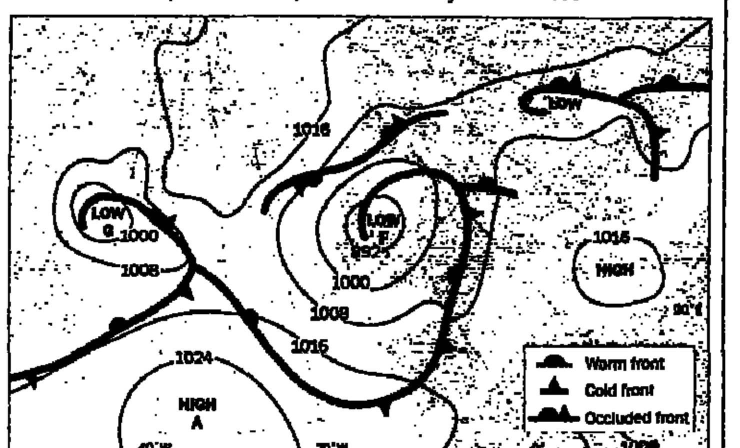
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	5.6	0.04	15	59	r
Anglesey	0.9	0.31	14	57	r
Aspatria	2.0	0.20	16	61	sh
Aviemore	3.9	0.13	17	63	sh
Belfast	2.0	0.04	14	57	r
Birmingham	2.7	0.30	13	55	r
Bognor R	1.6*	0.30	14	57	r
Bournem'th	0.5	0.45	15	59	r
Bristol	4.7	0.28	17	63	r
Buxton	3.2	0.15	12	54	r
Cardiff	4.8	0.24	18	64	r
Clacton	8.8	0.08	15	59	b
Cleethorpes	0.7	0.03	17	63	sh
Colwyn Bay	X				
Cromer	6.2	0.10	17	63	sh
Dunbar	5.0	0.17	15	59	s
Eastbourne	0.6	0.26	15	59	r
Edinburgh	2.3	0.39	16	61	sh
Eskdalemuir	2.2	0.45	14	57	sh
Exmouth	2.4	0.33	16	61	r
Falmouth	3.6	0.26	16	61	sh
Fishguard	2.9	0.44	16	61	r
Folkestone	2.1	0.21	16	61	r
Glasgow	4.3	0.33	15	59	sh
Guernsey	2.4	0.24	19	66	sh
Hastings	1.1	0.27	15	59	r
Hayling I.	1.5	0.28	15	59	r
Herne Bay	3.7	0.04	17	63	sh
Hove	0.9	0.15	15	59	r
Hunstanton	1.4	0.12	16	61	sh
Ilfracombe	X				
Isle of Man	6.2	0.11	13	55	r
Jersey	1.6	0.19	18	64	r
Kinloss	4.2	0.14	18	64	sh
Leeds	4.7	0.17	17	63	r
Lerwick	0.4	0.09	13	55	sh
Leuchars	7.4	0.17	17	63	b
Littlehmptn	1.1	0.31	15	59	r
London	3.3	0.08	17	63	r
Lowestoft	5.4	0.11	17	63	r
Manchester	5.5	0.10	14	57	r
Margate	3.9	0.08	17	63	r
Minehead	5.2	0.40	18	64	r
Morecambe	4.2	0.11	15	59	sh
Newcastle	5.1	0.14	17	63	sh
Newquay	7.3	0.24	17	63	r
Norwich	5.6	0.08	17	63	r
Oxford	0.3	0.19	14	57	r
Penzance	X	0.32	17	63	sh
Poole	1.5	0.43	16	61	r
Prestatyn	X	0.15	14	57	r
Ross-o-wye	2.8	0.26	15	59	r
Ryde	X				
Salcombe	4.6	0.28	16	61	r
Sandown	X				
Saunton Snd	2.1	0.25	16	61	b
Scarboro'	4.9	0.20	15	59	b
Shanklin	1.3	0.34	15	59	r
Shrewsbury	2.3	0.19	11	52	r
Skegness	5.4	0.14	17	63	r
Southend	4.5	0.14	16	61	sh
Southport	X				
Stornoway	6.3	0.16	14	57	b
Swanage	3.3	0.38	16	61	sh
Teignmouth	3.4	0.39	17	63	r
Tenby	3.8	0.48	16	61	r
Tiree	11.0	0.01	14	57	sh
Torquay	2.8	0.31	16	61	r
Tynemouth	-	0.15	13	55	r
Ventnor	0.8	0.21	15	59	r
West-s-mare	X				
Weymouth	3.8	0.36	16	61	s

ABROAD

Ajaccio	24	75	f
Akrotiri	31	88	s
Alex'dria	29	84	s
Algiers	27	81	s
Amst'dm	19	66	c
Athens	34	93	s
B Aires	19	66	s
Bahrain	37	99	s
Bangkok	35	95	f
Barbados	30	86	f
Barcelona	22	72	f
Beirut	28	82	s
Belgrade	22	72	f
Berlin	19	66	f
Bermuda	27	81	f
Biarritz	18	64	f
Borde'x	21	70	f
Brussels	20	68	f
Budapst	24	75	s
Cairo	35	95	s
Cape Tn	X		
Ch'church	8	46	X
Chicago	28	82	s
Cologne	20	68	s
Corfu	31	88	s
C'phagn	X		
Dublin	17	63	c
Dubrovnik	28	82	s
Faro	23	73	s
Florence	26	79	f
Frankfurt	18	64	s
Funchal	20	68	c
Geneva	19	66	f
Gibraltar	X		
Helsinki	21	70	f
Hong K	25	77	f
Innsbrck	14	57	r
Istanbul	X	X	X
Jeddah	37	99	s
Jo'burg	14	57	s
L Angels	23	73	s
L Palmas	24	75	f
Le Tquet	16	61	f
Lisbon	21	70	f
Locarno	15	59	r
Luxembg	19	66	f
Luxor	41	106	s
Madrid	24	75	f
Majorca	25	77	f
Malaga	24	75	f
Malta	31	88	f
Melb'rne	10	50	s
Mexico C	22	72	f
Miami	33	91	s
Milan	17	63	f
Montreal	24	75	s
Moscow	14	57	c
Munich	19	66	f
N Delhi	22	72	f
N York	27	81	s
Nairobi	22	72	f
Naples	34	93	f
Nice	22	72	f
Oslo	17	63	c
Paris	20	68	c
Peking	32	90	s
Perth	18	64	r
Prague	17	63	f
Reykjavik	13	55	r
Rhodes	32	90	s
Rio de J	18	64	s
Riyadh	43	109	s
Rome	26	79	r
S Fr'isco	22	72	s
S Paulo	26	79	f
Salzburg	19	66	c
Santiago	11	52	r
Seoul	31	88	f
Sing'por	33	91	f
St'kholm	19	66	s
Strasb'rg	21	70	f
Sydney	14	57	c
Tangier	24	75	f
Tel Aviv	30	86	s
Tenerife	23	73	f
Tokyo	25	77	r
Toronto	22	72	s
Tunis	31	88	s
Valencia	29	84	f
Vanc'ver	15	59	f
Venice	18	64	c
Vienna	20	68	f
Warsaw	19	66	f
Wash'ton	28	82	f
Wel'ngton	9	48	X
Zurich	14	57	r

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday X = not available



Changes to the chart from noon: low F will slowly drift east over the weekend and begin to fill Low G will run east and slowly fill. High A will remain stationary with pressure unchanged

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THE TIMES 2

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY

Monday
Tuesday
Wednesday
Thursday
Friday

WORKING WEEK Restaurateur with a taste for the high life **PAGE 31**

INVESTMENT Graham Searjeant on the danger of mixing your drinks **PAGE 33**

SPORT Lions face supreme test of strength against South Africa **PAGES 48-56**

THE TIMES CITY DIARY PAGE 31

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

SATURDAY JUNE 21 1997

Rate rise fears push pound to new high

By Alasdair Murray

THE POUND surged to a post-ERM high yesterday as speculation grew in the money markets that the Bank of England is set to make hefty rate rises.

The pound closed up 2½ pfennigs at DM2.8647, helping sterling's trade weighted index reach a five-year high at 101.2. The pound also made ground against the dollar, from $1.6463 to $1.6539.

Strong economic data published this week, which shows consumer spending booming, has led economists to revise interest rate predictions upwards. New data published yesterday showed credit card spending and consumer confidence close to all-time highs.

But interest rate and Budget fears continued to trouble the stock market, with the FTSE 100 closing down 59.8 points, at 4,593.9. The market has fallen 190 points this week — nearly 4 per cent of its total value — since last Friday's record high. Traders said that with Budget worries set to dominate the FTSE is likely to continue to struggle.

The pound's renewed strength prompted rumours that the Bank of England was checking prices in the market with a view to intervening to dampen sterling's strength, although the Bank made no move yesterday. Traders believe the pound will remain strong, with the forecast rate rises leaving UK rates well above levels in Europe and in America, where expectations of further rate rises have receded in the past few weeks.

Until recently the money markets had been forecasting interest rates would rise to around 7.25 per cent by the end of the year. But Michael Dicks, UK economist at Lehman Brothers, yesterday predicted rates could reach 9 per cent next year unless there are tax rises to the tune of £7 billion in the Budget.

The pound will also benefit from further EMU uncertainty and market fears that Europe is heading for a soft single currency. Adam Cole, UK economist at James Capel, predicted the pound will head towards DM2.90 and did not rule out a further rise towards DM3.00, above the old ERM central parity rate of DM2.95.

New evidence of the booming consumer sector emerged in credit card data yesterday, which showed total credit and debit card spending jumping to £8.2 billion, a rise of 19 per cent from May 1996.

Card spending on household goods rose at an annual rate of 35 per cent while there were strong increases in card purchases of clothes, which rose 22 per cent, and food and drink, up 20 per cent. But expenditure on travel, the largest element of card spending, rose by a below-average 15 per cent overall and by just 10.5 per cent on credit cards. The Credit Card Research Group blamed the poor figures on travel agents making surcharges on card payments.

The latest European Commission consumer confidence survey showed the interest rate rise this month had failed to dampen confidence among UK consumers.

The Paris bourse would link with Frankfurt's under merger plans now being negotiated

Energy chief's float bonus

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

THE departing chief executive of British Energy was paid a bonus worth more than 59 per cent of his salary last year, including a 15 per cent bonus as a reward for the pressures of privatisation.

The payment of £122,370 to Bob Hawley, who is this month leaving the company with a £450,000 pay-off "to pursue other interests", included £31,000 in benefits for its flotation last summer.

British Energy was sold amid controversy when it disclosed that it had suddenly shut two reactors because cracks had been found. The announcement came after the deadline for private shareholders' applications. Shares in British Energy plummeted to a discount upon flotation, leaving investors nursing a loss for weeks.

The company's remuneration committee said that the bonus for a successful flotation was "in recognition of the contribution made by the directors to the success of the process while ensuring maintenance of ongoing operations".

Dr Hawley's total pay package rose by 49 per cent, to £384,166, in the year to March 31, from £258,242 in the previous year. He also received £31,914 for relocation and accommodation and £22,522 for other benefits.

☐ Five ScottishPower directors received bonuses totalling nearly £400,000 last year. Ian Robinson, chief executive, received a package of £397,256, including a bonus of £102,900.

Paris and Frankfurt bourses set out to rival City

By Oliver August

THE stock and futures exchanges in Frankfurt and Paris yesterday announced a plan to merge their operations, hoping to challenge London's position as the financial centre of Europe.

Werner Seifert, the Börse management board chairman in Frankfurt, said: "We will combine the cash market and the futures markets." Jean-François Theodore, head of the Bourses Francaises, said that the link-up was planned for 1998. Both men were speaking at a securities industry conference in Frankfurt.

The alliance will create a common trading platform for stocks, futures and other financial instruments. Officials and experts from the two cities are negotiating details.

According to a Börse spokesman, operations will be combined gradually. He said: "There will be no Big Bang." The issue of who will regulate and supervise the markets has yet to be addressed.

The bourses of Frankfurt and Paris have tried before to combine operations on futures contracts. Herr Seifert said: "This time, it will succeed."

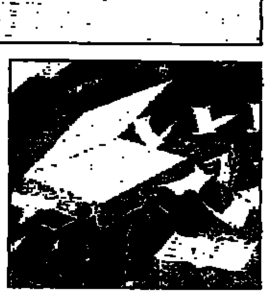
A spokeswoman for Liffe, the London futures exchange, said the alliance did not threaten its position. She said: "Liffe is Europe's premier exchange. We are larger than Frankfurt and Paris put together." From January to May, 84 million contracts were traded on Liffe, 42 million in Frankfurt and 30 million in Paris, she said.

She added: "We understand the reasons for an alliance. But they have tried and failed before. All the exchanges are locked in a battle to win the euro futures contracts and this battle is being fought now."

A London Stock Exchange spokesman said: "We dwarf Europe."

WEEKEND MONEY

35
Anne Ashworth on the Nationwide affair



33
What the Budget could mean for homes and perks

PENSIONS

34
Dilemma over changes to pension schemes

INVESTMENT 1

36
Day of reckoning for investors in Eurotunnel

INVESTMENT 2

39-42
Peps special. Windfalls and how to shelter them

BUSINESS TODAY

FTSE 100	4593.9	(-59.8)
Yield	3.56%	
FTSE All share	2187.93	(-22.27)
Nikkei	20385.54	(-122.31)
New York:		
Dow Jones	7816.42	(+39.36)*
S&P Composite	899.90	(+1.91)*
Federal Funds	5⅝%*	(5½%)
Long Bond	99 15/32*	(99 9/16)
Yield	6.67%*	(6.68%)
3-mth Interbank	6 11/16%	(6 11/16%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	113½	(113 3/32)
New York		
$	1.6540*	(1.6490)
London:		
$	1.6540	(1.6465)
DM	2.8648	(2.8398)
FFr	9.6684	(9.5802)
SFr	2.3832	(2.3668)
Yen	189.64	(187.50)
£ Index	101.2	(100.4)
London:		
DM	1.7300*	(1.7240)
FFr	5.8365*	(5.8180)
SFr	1.4409*	(1.4387)
Yen	114.55*	(114.09)
$ Index	102.8	(102.5)
Tokyo close Yen 114.58		
Brent 15-day (Sep)	$17.70	($17.90)
London close	$338.50	($338.85)

* denotes midday trading price

Railtrack

The Deputy Prime Minister, increased the pressure on Railtrack by threatening to reopen the question of how to regulate it. The company is fighting off attempts at tighter regulation. **Page 30**

Nationwide rebel faces legal action

By Nathan Yates and Caroline Merrell

MICHAEL HARDERN, the dissident member standing for the Nationwide board, faces legal action after admitting that he had falsified birth dates when making account applications and encouraged others to use false addresses.

Mr Hardern, who was once determined to force the Nationwide to convert, now supports mutuality.

The Building Societies Association said that, in its view, Mr Hardern's activities were illegal. The Building Societies Commission, the industry watchdog, has described Mr Hardern's advocacy of the use of false addresses as "an incitement to the public to make false statements", which would be "likely to be so considered in law".

The commission, which has the power to enforce the expulsion of directors if they are deemed not "fit and proper", denied that there had been pressure exerted on Mr Hardern to abandon his pro-conversion stance.

However, a commission spokesman said: "The primary duty of a building society board is to protect its savers' money. Directors should, therefore, be able to demonstrate prudence, good character and repute, and a high degree of personal integrity."

The Nationwide is writing to its 3.5 million members this weekend to inform them of Mr Hardern's changed views.

☐ Halifax shares soared 30p to reach 775½p yesterday, in anticipation of the bank entering the FTSE 100 index at the beginning of next week. Index-tracking funds, which are believed to hold about 15 per cent of the shares in the UK market, will have to hold shares in the Halifax from Monday.

Guinness merger set for full inquiry

By Alasdair Murray

THE European Commission revealed yesterday that it will be launching a full-scale competition investigation into the planned £23 billion merger between Guinness and Grand Metropolitan.

The US Federal Trade Commission also confirmed overnight that it would be investigating the merger further, although it gave no specific reasons for its concern.

The decision of the two authorities to proceed with more detailed investigations will increase City concern that the deal could run into trouble. Bernard Arnault, chairman of Guinness's partner, LVMH, unexpectedly snapped up a 6 per cent stake in GrandMet on Thursday, prompting speculation that he could attempt to block the deal.

The Commission said in a statement that it was worried about the impact of the merger on the European whisky market where the combined share of the two companies would reach 40 per cent in some countries. It added that it would also explore the "significant" overlaps in the gin and vodka markets. The investigation, known as the "serious doubt phase" is expected to last until October.

Shares in the two companies fell back yesterday after M Arnault's unexpected raid which boosted the share prices on Thursday. GrandMet shares closed down 14p at 589½p, while Guinness fell 12p to 591½p in heavy trading. The City is anxiously awaiting M Arnault's next move. M Arnault, who is in the US on business, maintained his silence on LVMH's strategy.

Tempus, page 32

Stellican's £8m auction success draws icy response from club

UK firm nets top Italian side

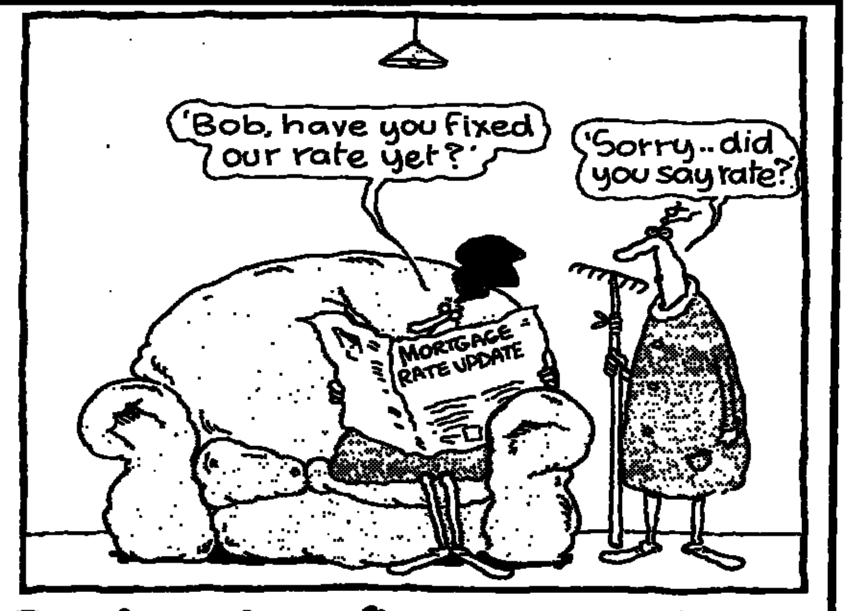
By Chris Ayres

THERE may be only one English player in the top flight of Italian football, but a British company yesterday became the owner of the current holders of the Italian version of the FA Cup.

Vicenza, which competes in Italy's top Serie A league and won this year's Copa Italia, was snapped up by Stellican, a British investment company run by a friend of the Princess of Wales, for 22.75 billion lire (£8.1 million) at an Italian bankruptcy court auction. It took three days of frantic negotiations for Stellican to close the deal. Two Italian companies and a consortium of local businesses made rival bids for the club, only to withdraw their offers at the last minute.

Vicenza ran into trouble when its owners became bankrupt, despite the club being profitable, after a successful season in Serie A when it qualified for next season's European Cup Winners' Cup. Stephen Julius, the managing director of Stellican, is half-Italian and came to prominence three years ago when he escorted the Princess of Wales to a rugby match in Cardiff. He said yesterday: "At the end of the day it doesn't matter who owns the club as long as it is looked after and developed. In many ways this deal could be an indication of things to come in football."

The club, based in prosperous north-east Italy, gave an icy response to its new owner. Sergio Gasparin, director-general of the club, said: "All I can do is take note of the decision reached by the Milan court."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Railtrack warned by Prescott on regulation

By Carl Mortished

JOHN PRESCOTT, the Deputy Prime Minister, increased the pressure on Railtrack yesterday, threatening to reopen the whole question of how the company is regulated. The rail utility, which has already been criticised by Mr Prescott for underinvesting, is fighting off attempts at tighter regulation of its investment programme.

Speaking at a conference of Aslef, the railway union yesterday, Mr Prescott said that Railtrack had refused to voluntarily give the Rail Regulator tighter powers to control its investment programme. He indicated that there were several areas where regulation needed to be tightened up and said: "I would emphasise that unless a satisfactory arrangement is reached by agreement, then the whole question of how Railtrack is regulated will be opened up once more."

John Swift, the Rail Regulator, proposed changes in Railtrack's licence this month after the announcement of Railtrack's annual profits. News that the company had profited heavily from performance bonuses caused Mr Swift to question the regulatory regime and to propose a change to the company's licence.

However, last week Sir Robert Horton, Railtrack's chairman rejected the draft licence amendments, labelling them bureaucratic. The regulator has the option of referring the matter to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission if the parties fail to agree.

Yesterday, Railtrack continued to insist that the regulator should not be given powers to control its investment programme. A spokesman said: "Our investment plans are in our network management statement. Creating more bureaucracy is not the way ahead."

Mr Prescott said he would be looking long and hard at what needs to be done to bring proper public accountability to the Railway system. He reiterated proposals to create a Strategic Rail Authority. He said: "It is clearly wrong that taxpayers should be asked to stump up this kind of money without proper public accountability. We hear reports that complaints are up, prices are up and promised investment not delivered."

Mr Prescott rejected the option of wholesale privatisation of the London Underground, but said he was confident that public-private partnerships could deliver large scale investment in the Tube.

Anglo hits snag over Coalite

By Martin Barrow

ANGLO UNITED'S proposed sale of Coalite, the smokeless fuels business, has run into difficulties.

Yesterday the troubled company, which must sell Coalite to ensure its survival, said information had emerged that may have an adverse impact on the terms agreed with Thomas Potts, the shell company of the entrepreneurs Stephen and Paul Hargrave.

Potts had agreed to pay £24.3 million for Coalite, which was acquired by Anglo for £427 million in 1989. Yesterday both sides refused to disclose more details about the impasse, but suggested the deal was still likely to go ahead, albeit at a reduced price. A Thomas Potts adviser said: "We have not yet had a chance to assess the impact."

Both companies will adjourn next week's extraordinary meetings convened to approve the deal.

Anita Roddick attributes changing trends in shopping partly for the sales dip

Body Shop sales and shares drop

By Clare Stewart

SHARES in Body Shop International fell to a 12-month low yesterday after the retailer of skin care and beauty products disclosed a 2 per cent decline in like-for-like sales in the first quarter.

New store openings helped Body Shop to lift worldwide retail sales in the first quarter by 6 per cent, although like-for-like store sales fell by 2 per cent.

Gordon Roddick, chairman, told the company's annual meeting yesterday that worldwide sales rose 6 per cent, helped by 25 store openings during the period, lifting the total number of outlets to 1,516. The shares fell 4p to 157p. More than half of the new shops were in Japan, helping sales in Asia to grow by 17 per cent in the first three months. However, on a like-for-like basis, sales from stores in Asia fell by 10 per cent.

Body Shop, whose chief executive is Anita Roddick, said the fall partly reflected the impact of new openings and changing shopping patterns.

In the UK like-for-like sales rose 2 per cent. A 4 per cent decline in comparable store sales in the US marked an improvement on previous figures, suggesting sales were stabilising.

Tempus, page 32

Industry fears rise in stamp duty

PROPERTY companies fear that a big increase in stamp duty in Gordon Brown's Budget would kill off the industry's fragile recovery (Carl Mortished writes). Stamp Duty Concern, a coalition of property and construction interests, said yesterday that 144,000 jobs could be lost within two years if the Chancellor raised stamp duty from 1 per cent to 7 per cent.

A study commissioned by SDC from the Centre for Economics and Business Research suggests that the mooted increase would cut housing starts by 11 per cent and property prices by 4 per cent. Lenders' fears, page 33

Electra gain from train sale was £92m

By Clare Stewart

ELECTRA Investment Trust earned a £92 million profit on the sale of Eversholt, the privatised train leasing company, it emerged yesterday.

Electra's original investment in Eversholt, formerly part of British Rail, was £17 million. Controversially, the sale of Eversholt to HSBC made its directors millionaires just a year after the company was privatised.

Electra realised a record £172 million from investments in the first half, the investment trust reported.

Electra, which specialises in investing in unquoted companies, lifted its adjusted net asset value by 9.12 per cent, to 569.74p, outperforming the FTSE All Share Index, which rose by 7.95 per cent in the six months to March 31.

The total return to shareholders was £90.1 million, representing a 10.17 per cent increase. The dividend has been raised by 15.38 per cent, to 4.5p.

Michael Stoddart, the chairman, said: "The substantial realisations provide us with the ammunition to go forward and make new investments." Around 96 per cent of EIT's investments are in Britain and America, though newer areas of activity include India, South America and the Far East.

Investments in the first half were just below 1996's record level at £111 million. The largest investment included £31 million in the Newmond management buyout from Williams Holdings, and £19.3 million towards the buyout of William Cook Holdings, the steel castings group that earlier this year faced a hostile bid from Triplex Lloyd.

The value of the investment portfolio rose by 8.3 per cent after the strength of sterling in the period had trimmed values by £16.4 million. Mr Stoddart said that deal flow was good, though he added that the market for new unlisted investment in the UK and US is increasingly competitive given the level of funds flowing into the sector.

Shares in Electra fell 4½p, to 477p yesterday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Goshawk bids £35m for Matheson trust

GOSHAWK Insurance Holdings, the specialist Lloyd's insurance group, has made a recommended £35 million bid for Matheson Lloyd's Investment Trust. The deal continues consolidation among the Lloyd's business community. Goshawk already owns 9.6 per cent of Matheson and has acceptances in respect of 40.16 per cent of the shares. It has been promised another 6.9 per cent, giving it control. The combined group would manage more than £115 million of annual premium capacity and own £80 million of capacity.

The deal balances the marine business managed by Goshawk in syndicate 102 with capacity owned by Matheson in marine, non-marine, aviation and motor syndicates. Goshawk shares, on the Alternative Investment Market, were unchanged at 126½p. Matheson shares rose 5p, to 124½p, against the 134p-a-share value of the 18-for-17 share bid, based on the 126½p Goshawk price. Tempus, page 32

Planes cost BA £650m

BRITISH AIRWAYS is to buy three Boeing 767s and five Boeing 777s at a cost of £650 million. The purchases are part of BA plans to invest £6 billion over the next three years on introducing new services and acquiring aircraft. BA said that it is spending to increase capacity and develop new products and businesses. Rolls-Royce won a $55 million order for RB211-524 engines to power the three 767s, and General Electric of America will power the 777s with its GE90 engines, BA said. The 777s are a conversion of options placed in 1991.

Banner beats forecasts

BANNER HOMES, the Bristol housebuilding group, beat market forecasts in the year to March with a rise in pre-tax profits to £2 million, from £750,000. Sales rose 1 per cent, to £28.2 million, with 156 units sold, at an average price of £159,000. Banner now intends to sell off its commercial properties. It says that residential reservations are strong. Earnings per share rose to 9.9p, from 1.2p. A final dividend of 1.2p, due on September 5, will take the total to 1.6p (0.7p).

Zeneca poised for deal

ZENECA is set to acquire ICI's Australian pharmaceuticals business. No figures have been disclosed, but analysts say that the acquisition will be relatively small for Zeneca, with the business valued at about £100 million. Sale negotiations will take place once ICI has completed its planned global offering of its 62.4 per cent stake in ICI Australia. The disposal is part of ICI's fundraising to finance its acquisition of Unilever's speciality chemicals businesses.

Westland's £200m order

GKN WESTLAND has won a £200 million order from South Korea to supply 12 Super Lynx naval helicopters equipped with British Aerospace-manufactured Sea Skua missiles. The order, which will help to secure hundreds of jobs at the Yeovil plant in Somerset, places Westland in a good position to pick up a contract from Malaysia. Initially, the Malaysians want to buy up to six naval helicopters, but there are also plans for 27 offshore patrol vessels, each equipped with a helicopter.

Merrill settlement

MERRILL LYNCH will pay $30 million to settle the criminal inquiry into its role in underwriting bond offerings for Orange County, California, before the county filed for bankruptcy in 1994. Although Merrill Lynch expressly denied any wrongdoing, the settlement ends the threat of criminal charges against the broker. The firm is still being sued for $2 billion by the county, which claims that it encouraged its former treasurer to borrow large sums and to invest them in unstable securities.

Crean issues warning

JAMES CREAN, the industrial holding company based in the Irish Republic, has given warning that first-half earnings will be less than last year and that it will move to "a more conservative dividend policy" as it completes restructuring of its businesses. However, Crean said that it will keep this year's interim dividend at last year's Ir6.5p. The company blamed the downturn in profits to weakness in the British industrial electrical market and supply problems in the poultry industry.

ED&F Man disposal

ED&F Man, the commodities and financial services group, has sold its cocoa processing business for $223 million to Archer-Daniels-Midland of America (Oliver August writes). The City welcomed the move and Man shares rose 11½p to a high of 203½p.

Harvey McGrath, managing director of ED&F Man, said: "The sale of the cocoa processing business is part of our strategy of focusing investment on those activities where we see consistently high levels of return for our shareholders. This transaction further strengthens the group's finances and gives us the scope to increase investment in our key markets."

Mr McGrath said that proceeds would be used to reduce borrowings. However, he added: "There may well be some acquisitions."

The reason for the sale is said to be the consolidation process in the commodities sector. A spokesman for Man said that the company had been faced with the choice of either significantly increasing the size of the cocoa business or selling it. After being offered a "very good price", the company had opted for a disposal.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.30	2.14
Austria Sch	21.03	19.48
Belgium Fr	61.83	57.29
Canada $	2.412	2.237
Cyprus Cyp£	0.888	0.821
Denmark Kr	11.43	10.60
Finland Mkk	9.07	8.37
France Fr	10.07	9.35
Germany Dm	3.01	2.78
Greece Dr	477	440
Hong Kong $	13.53	12.40
Iceland	127	107
Ireland Pt	1.14	1.06
Israel Shk	6.00	5.35
Italy Lira	2961	2739
Japan Yen	203.60	187.10
Malta	0.668	0.612
Netherlds Gld	3.394	3.118
New Zealand $	2.56	2.34
Norway Kr	12.56	11.68
Portugal Esc	300.00	279.00
S Africa Rd	8.14	7.32
Spain Pta	251.50	234.00
Sweden Kr	13.54	12.51
Switzerland Fr	2.52	2.32
Turkey Lira	250768	232202
USA $	1.751	1.617

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A WORKING WEEK FOR: NEVILLE ABRAHAM

'Thin moggie' at ease in a cordon bleu world

Jon Ashworth meets a restaurant millionaire whose entrepreneurial lifestyle is balanced by a disarmingly down-to-earth view of wealth

IT IS not Neville Abraham's week that fascinates so much as his entire life. Born in India to Jews of Iraqi descent, he went to school in Brighton, worked in London as a civil servant, and now runs Groupe Chez Gérard, the fashionable restaurant chain. A millionaire, he takes the Tube to work, and is as likely to pop out for a lunchtime sandwich as to enjoy a cordon bleu feast.

Few entrepreneurs have so intriguing a pedigree — or are so disarmingly down-to-earth. Abraham, 60, launched Groupe Chez Gérard in 1986 with Laurence Isaacson, a former advertising executive. Their gastronomic empire includes such well-known London names as Scotts in Mayfair, Soho Soho, Café Fish and Bertorelli's in Covent Garden.

A fifth Chez Gérard restaurants is about to open in Bishopsgate, bringing upmarket steak-frites to the City of London. The company was floated on the stock market in 1994, netting up to £4 million each for the two founders.

Millionaire he might be, but one would never know it. Until recently, Abraham lived in the same flat in Paddington that he bought when he was a student. He now lives in Holland Park, but eschews the trappings of luxury. "I like the good things in life, but I've never thought you had to have a lot of money to get them. Good, for me, does not equal expensive. I cannot stand the five-star hotel. I cannot stand the three-star Michelin restaurant."

> ❛I like the good things in life but good does not equal expensive❜

The flotation brought financial security. "Laurence and I said to ourselves, look, we could work in this business for another ten years and when the time came to sell it there may not be a buyer. Why don't we go down the plc route, take half out now, settle the pension issue. And the other half, let's build it, and have some fun, and create some jobs."

The Groupe Chez Gérard annual report reveals a pair of decidedly "thin moggies". Abraham and Isaacson were each paid £92,000 in the year to June 1996 — hardly excessive for a company with pre-tax profits of £2.9 million on sales of £16.4 million. The pair hold 11 per cent of the shares each and have options to incentivise them, but this is not what drives Abraham. "My attitude to money is very odd. I haven't changed my lifestyle very much. I do not understand a different kind of animal who has made a lot of money and wants to treble it. As far as I'm concerned, it's more than I need."

Abraham was born in 1937 in Calcutta, where his mother was a teacher and his father worked for an English tobacco company. They were part of the clan that migrated east from Baghdad in the mid-1800s, and built a thriving community in India. Their leader, "a man called Sassoon", purchased warehouses in the docks in Bombay, Calcutta and Shanghai and became an important trader. His name lives on to this day.

In its heyday, the Jewish community in Calcutta numbered more than 400,000. Today no more than six or seven individuals remain. Abraham recalls: "When India became independent in 1947 the new Indian Government said to everybody: 'It's your choice. You can be an Indian or you can be a foreigner. If you're a foreigner, then you can't stay. If you're an Indian, you can't handle foreign currency.' So people went — to Australia, Canada, Britain, Israel . . ."

Vivid childhood memories remain. "It was British India and it was changing by the minute. I remember coming home from school one day and putting the radio on and hearing that Mahatma Gandhi had been shot." He went to school in Calcutta, then Delhi (his father was transferred) and ended up at the Scottish school in Bombay. An interest in food came at an early age when he used to quiz the family cook about his ingredients.

In 1950, Abraham and his brother Stanley were brought to England by their parents, who intended to place them in school. It was not quite as they imagined. "1950 was post-war, rationing, freezing, and we arrived on April 14 in Southampton on a P&O ship, which had been a troop ship, to see three feet of snow. I'd never seen snow before. My image was that England was a green place, and we were coming to the summer.

"We went to see six schools and my mother was more appalled by each one she saw. She said they reminded her of prisons, and she was very sorry but she was going to take us back to Bombay." The younger Abrahams had other ideas, and ended up at Brighton College. Their parents caught the ship home.

Abraham managed trips home every two years, flying on the new BOAC Super Constellations, which completed the trip in 24 hours, making six refuelling stops en route. In 1953, in a memorable adventure, he sailed for Bombay from Marseilles, paying £10 to travel steerage on a French liner carrying troops. He had his dinner jacket with him and succeeded in spending half the journey in first class before he was rumbled. "The food in deck class was actually better than the food in first class. It was very basic, very straightforward, and absolutely delicious," he says.

School led to a year's traineeship in a cigarette factory in the East End, but Abraham did not take to it. He did three years at the London School of Economics (LSE), paying his way by working in coffee bars in the West End. "I lived in the YMCA at Totteham Court Road for a pound a week. I walked across Covent Garden to the LSE every day, and worked at night. I was in the centre of London, and I loved it."

ANTHONY UPTON

Hands-on operator: Neville Abraham checking progress at his new Bishopsgate restaurant, which will be the fifth in his Chez Gérard empire

He did two years with Young and Rubicam, the advertising agency, then was encouraged by a friend to join the Civil Service. He spent eight years there, working on the merger of BOAC and BEA, and tackling such intractable issues as the coal strike.

On his departure in 1971, Abraham wrote a book, worked as a management consultant, lectured on government-business relations, and set up a mail-order wine company. Isaacson offered to write the brochure, and took a 10 per cent stake in lieu of a fee — "the best investment Laurence has ever made in his life".

In 1980, they opened a restaurant in Covent Garden, Le Café des Amis du Vin, and sold out after four years to Kennedy Brookes. Groupe Chez Gérard duly followed.

Abraham's working week reflects his upbringing. "As you would expect of a nomad it's never the same week twice." He will not be drawn on a favourite restaurant or ideal holiday, and hates to be pinned down. "That's why I don't have a weekend country cottage. I can go to Suffolk or Devon or walking in the Lake District, or whatever."

He is unmarried, but has plenty of nephews and nieces. Stanley, who accompanied him to England, is now professor of business studies at Caltech in California, and has two boys. Another brother, Ralph, runs the London Diabetes Centre, and has two girls. Abraham says: "I can be uncle to boys and girls without having my own." He looks paternally on the company's 650 employees.

Abraham concentrates on running the business, leaving Isaacson to come up with the creative ideas. He spends about half his time in his office near Leicester Square, with the rest "out and about" looking at sites for new restaurants, and attending to his other duties. He is vice-chairman of the Restaurateurs Association, and takes a keen interest in opera. Groupe Chez Gérard sponsors the annual Covent Garden Festival.

He spends half a day a week, usually Thursday mornings, in his flat, contemplating in private. "There are phone calls that I want to make which I really don't want anybody to know about." There is a fair amount of lunching with brokers and analysts, and he tends to work one weekend in three. This weekend finds him at Lord's — weather permitting.

Four weeks a year are given over to holidays. Abraham spent Christmas and New Year travelling through Cambodia and Vietnam, visiting ancient temples, and taking in the sights. "With a girlfriend, we travelled from Saigon to Hanoi by car, spending a day or two at various places." A highlight was Hoi An, once a thriving trading post, where merchant's houses back onto a river estuary, long since silted up.

Abraham and Isaacson are keen to expand Groupe Chez Gérard, but for the time being will remain focused on London, which has plenty of scope. "The streets of London are painted with gold and out of 10,000 sites, we only have 13, so we could easily double or treble in the London area."

The imminent opening of Chez Gérard in Bishopsgate will please City gastronomes. Abraham promises a carnivorous debut. "By Bastille Day, which is the 14th of July, where blood did flow, Chez Gérard will be serving steak and chips."

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Grade school

MICHAEL GRADE, ex-Channel 4 mogul, is heading for a testing few minutes next Tuesday when First Leisure reports its first set of financials since he took control at the start of the month. First there was the sudden departure of John Conlan, the bruiser who had been chief executive before Grade stepped in to run the family firm at the start of this month. In January the handover had been flagged as amicable, and Conlan has maintained a dignified silence since. He was to have hung around until the end of the year to hand over the reins but left as Grade walked in, the latter's departure from Channel 4 having also been accelerated.

Conlan was widely respected in the City as a manager. Also worrying the analysts is the virtually unnoticed departure, on the day Grade arrived, of Conlan's lieutenant, Nick Tamblyn, the energetic commercial director whose job it was to keep the various managers on their toes. The suspicion is that Grade has no interest in running the company and is merely looking around for the highest bidder. This has prompted a run on the shares this month. The scribblers will want to know considerably more.

Michael Grade's arrival at First Leisure coincided with executive departures

City shoot-out

A LIVELY time, too, is expected on Tuesday at Guildhall, where the liverymen are gathering to elect two City sheriffs. My item yesterday about the cold shoulder being offered one alderman, Anthony Bull — perhaps for not being compliant enough for the powers-that-be, further research suggests — turns up an interesting snippet. At least two critics of the archaic electoral system in the City will have their say, it seems. We know that one of the three candidates for sheriff, Dennis Delderfield, plans an attack. So, too, does Malcolm Matson, an old enemy of the City of London Corporation, who took the body to court and won after being shut out of the post of Alderman by the Corporation's inner circle, although little good it did him. As a liveryman he must be heard, and he plans to point out one or two eccentricities of the system — such as the fact that, once installed as Alderman, you can only be turfed out by your peers, and not by the electorate.

- *WHAT were Sir David Scholey, chairman of SBC Warburg, and Lord Hollick of United News & Media discussing at a rather damp Glyndebourne on Thursday evening? More to the point, why did the two, who must surely have met before, have to exchange business cards at the end of the performance? The production was rather apposite. They saw* The Marriage of Figaro.

Verdict vacuum

THE appropriately-named *Against the Odds*, the autobiography of James Dyson, inventor of the bagless vacuum cleaner, arrives at the end of the month. The odds the book has beaten are those stacked against anyone sucked into an American legal action. Publication was blocked for some weeks by an injunction taken out by Amway, the American corporation with whom Dyson settled an earlier legal action over patents in 1991.

"I think it's probably better not to say too much," says Dyson. "They didn't want the book published at all. They brought an injunction on the basis that we had defamed them and disclosed terms of an agreement." In other words, the legal action was to prevent any mention of an earlier legal action. Only in America. At least the judge threw the injunction out. I suggest that a few weeks seems a remarkably short time in the American legal system. "It works quite well on some occasions," says Dyson.

- *BT is in a great state of excitement over ISDN, which as far as I can gather is some sort of souped-up telephone cable. (Please don't write in and tell me if it isn't). BT has been sending round a glossy circular, including case studies of the businesses that have been transformed by the new service. One needed "to control its business efficiently and cost-effectively" so it bought one of the brutes, it seems. The company was Escom UK. Shortly after the brochure went out, it went bust.*

Secret service

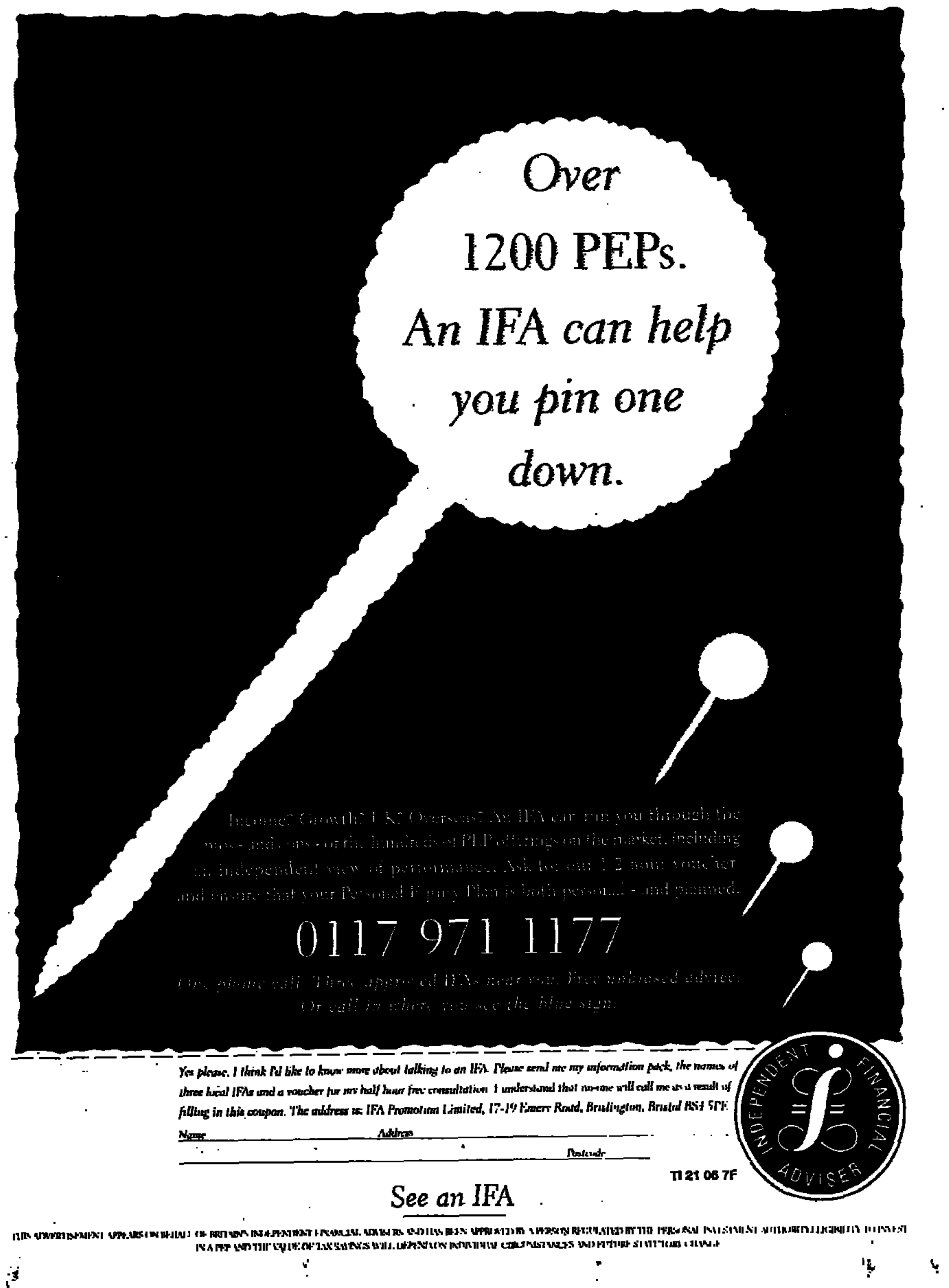
JONATHAN AITKEN, for one, will not be flying British Airways again in a hurry. His downfall, it seems, would have been averted if that fatal flight to Geneva had been on Swissair. The Swiss carrier has been flying Martin Bormann on the Berlin-Geneva shuttle twice a week ever since the war ended, or might as well have been for all that we know. In keeping with the Swiss obsession with secrecy, no flight records are kept. Ever.

Board games

SOMEONE else is none too fond of the world's favourite airline either, perhaps. BA's flights out of Heathrow were in chaos yesterday. A colleague was held up for two hours, along with most other flights out of Terminal One. BA, which has recently imposed a pay freeze on its staff, insists that the problem was a computer one, and that there are no industrial relations problems at Heathrow. Peculiar. The pilot of my colleague's plane clearly told passengers that the handlers were refusing to put the cases on board.

MARTIN WALLER

"It's a bargain, it's less than the value of my Halifax shares"



Thought for the day

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[illegible]

STOCK MARKET

MICHAEL CLARK

Top 100 status for A&L and Halifax boosts banks

INSTITUTIONAL investors were piling back into the banking sector ahead of Monday's debut of **Alliance & Leicester** and **Halifax** in the FTSE 100 index.

Celebrating their newly elevated status, the Halifax put on 25p to close at a high of 770p as 53.7 million shares changed hands, while the Alliance & Leicester finished 4p better at 603p on turnover of 13.3 million shares.

Led by the powerful index tracker funds, City fund managers were attempting to increase their weightings in the financial sector, which has increased dramatically in size with the conversion of a number of building societies into banks.

Next month, it is the turn of the Woolwich, which along with the **Norwich Union**, unchanged at 324½p, will take *its place as a top 100 constituent in September.*

The Alliance started life in April at 533p, while the Halifax began trading at 724½p.

Also in the banking sector, **HSBC** touched £19.03½ before closing 11p higher at £18.60½. Dealers said the move reflected a strong performance by shares in the Far East overnight.

Lloyds TSB fell 11½p to 608½p. Dresdner Kleinwort Benson has become the latest broker to upgrade its profit numbers. For 1997, it has raised its forecast from £2.9 billion to £3.08 billion and for 1998 by 7.6 per cent to £3.48 billion.

Elsewhere, the equity market ended the week on a flat note. Technical factors, including the expiry of the FTSE futures and options provided a bumpy ride that saw shares close at their low point of the day. An early lead was wiped out as two big security houses fought a financial tug of war, arbitraging between the cash and futures market in an attempt to close any remaining positions.

The FTSE 100 index was left nursing a fall of 59.8 at 4,593.9. That is a loss on the week of 189.3. Not even a strong opening rise by the Dow Jones industrial average could muster any positive sentiment.

GrandMet slipped 13½p at 590p and **Guinness** 12p to 593p, with their proposed £23 billion merger looking increasingly in jeopardy. On Thursday, LVMH, which already has 14 per cent of Guinness, snapped up 125 million shares in GrandMet and now holds around 6 per cent of the company.

Geoff Shingles, at VideoLogic, saw the shares rise 2½p

The move by Bernard Arnault, the LVMH chairman, gives him increased influence at the negotiating table. He has been against the proposed merger and brokers say he may wish to exact a price from Guinness for leaving LVMH out in the cold, or may want to form a three way link-up. The European Commission has decided to increase the scope of its inquiry into the merger.

Allied Domecq slipped 7p to 421p on profit-taking. City speculators are still hoping that Seagram, the north American drinks company, will swoop in reaction to the Guinness-GrandMet deal. By the close 10.2 million shares had traded.

BAT Industries firmed another 7p at 589p, after briefly touching 601½p, amid reports that the US tobacco companies may soon reach agreement with the anti-smoking litigants. *It has been* suggested that they may agree to stump up $370 billion over the next few years.

News of a drop in like-for-like sales left **Body Shop** 4p lower at a new low of 157p. Shareholders were told at the AGM that sales fell 2 per cent during the first quarter. Overall sales rose 6 per cent, boosted by the opening of 25 new stores, taking the total worldwide to 1,516. GW Management, the group's franchise management operator, has agreed to meet disgruntled French franchisees next week in Paris.

Laura Ashley, the troubled design and home furnishings chain, touched another new low of 76½p before rallying to close all-square at 77p.

Burton Group fell 4¾p to 120½p. On Monday it is due to lose it place as a constituent of the top 100 companies. The price was further depressed by the news that Sir John Hoskyns is due to retire as chairman at the AGM in January.

Some positive news at long last for Geoff Shingles, chairman of **VideoLogic**, and his shareholders. An exhibition in Atlanta has demonstrated increased usage for the group's PowerVR technology, which it is hoped could result in increased orders. The price responded by climbing off its low for the year to finish 2½p better at 34½p. Last year the price touched a high of 111½p.

Portsmouth & Sunderland Newspapers were steady at 837½p. The group came in with pre-tax profits of £7.5 million, at the top end of expectations on Tuesday, and HSBC James Capel, the broker, *has raised its forecast for* the current year to £9.8 million. It says "buy".

CIA Group firmed 1½p at 184p after rival **WPP** topped up its holding. It has bought a further 1.8 million shares, taking its total holding to 12.8 per cent. WPP originally had a 14.4 per cent stake in CIA, but this was diluted after a placing to raise £17 million. WPP fell 3p to 259p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: Gains of up to £½ among longer-dated issues reflected similar performances among German bunds and a strong pound.

Brokers reported a flattening of the yield curve for issues of less than ten years duration. The gains among index-linked issues were even more impressive as institutional investors began switching out of equities. But dealers pointed out that the index-linked had only managed to claw back earlier losses and that the new tap Treasury Index-linked 2½ per cent 2013 was still trading at a discount to the issue price.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt was £13/32 better at £113½ as the total number of contracts completed slumped to 35,000. In longs, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 put on £15/32 at £108 5/32, while Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was £1/16 better at £102 13/32.

NEW YORK: Share prices rose again amid general optimism about the US economy, which is showing signs of moderate growth and tame inflation, analysts said. By midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was ahead 39.36 points, at 7,816.42.

As the excitement of the Paris Air Show, where Rolls-Royce was awarded £500 million worth of orders, begins to die down, the shares have begun to struggle. They closed 8p lower at 244½p as more than six million were traded. One market-maker paid 265p for 2.5 million shares that are still overhanging.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
Railtrack	614p	-40½p	Windfall tax fears
Psion	402½p	-102½p	Sales warning
NatWest Group	746½p	-50p	Profits warning
Midland Ind News	176½p	+31½p	Mirror bid talks
BSkyB	497½p	-98p	CEO resigns/digital sale?
McDonnell Inf Sys	24p	-9p	Warning of losses
RJB Mining	351½p	+27p	Profit downgrading
GrandMet	590p	+25p	LVMH stakebuilding
IES Group	62½p	-67½p	First-half losses

MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	7816.42 (+39.36)
S&P Composite	899.90 (+1.91)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	20385.54 (-122.31)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	15154.36 (+647.87)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	862.20 (+5.61)
Sydney:	
AO	2712.60 (+19.30)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	3788.27 (+39.00)
Singapore:	
Straits	2008.44 (+5.47)
Brussels:	
General	13442.77 (+63.92)
Paris:	
CAC-40	2757.10 (+17.41)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	1152.20 (+22.90)
London:	
FT 30	2972.0 (-43.1)
FTSE 100	4593.9 (-59.8)
FTSE 250	4485.0 (-7.9)
FTSE 350	2229.1 (-24.1)
FTSE Eurotrack 100	2463.84 (-8.24)
FTSE All-Share	2187.93 (-22.27)
FTSE Non Financials	2219.74 (-22.12)
FTSE Fixed Interest	123.02 (-0.13)
FTSE Govt Secs	96.29 (+0.25)
Bargains	51391
SEAQ Volume	971.8m
US$	1.6539 (+0.0076)
German Mark	2.8647 (+0.0252)
Exchange Index	101.2 (+0.8)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.4526
£:SDR	1.1795
RPI	156.9 May (2.6%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	156.3 May (2.5%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Aston Villa	797½	...
Caradon B	87½	+ 2½
Gallaher	300	- 1½
Heart of Midlothian	111½	...
Highland Timber	124½	- 3
Integrated As Mgt	125	...
Longbridge Intl	117½	...
Norwich Union (290)	324½	...
Powderject Pharms	197½	...
Royalblue Group	209½	- ½
SBS Group	111½	...
Topps Tiles	112½	...
Versalite Group.	3½	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Century Inns n/p (155)	2	...
Pillar Props n/p (205)	15	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Vendome	459½p (+23p)
Sterling Ind	270½p (+13p)
Staveley	196½p (+8½p)
Corp Services	200½p (+8p)
Select App	504½p (+19½p)
Lincat	290½p (+10½p)
Telspec	256½p (+9p)
Halifax	770p (+25p)
Innovative Tech	334p (+9p)
Natl Express	479p (+10½p)
Abbot Mead	624p (+8p)
Westpac	365¾p (+8¼p)

FALLS:

Manders	128p (-9p)
Osborne & Little	725p (-45p)
Dawson Hdgs	190p (-10p)
Scotia	326½p (-14½p)
Orange	194p (-8p)
Pressac	252½p (-10p)
Goode Durrant	414p (-16p)
Servisair	415p (-15p)
DCS Gp	222½p (-8p)
Prudential	585½p (-20½p)
AB Food	526p (-18p)
Abbey Ntl	804½p (-27½p)
Shield Diag	537½p (-15p)
Stand Chart	875½p (-24p)
Hanson	306p (-8p)
Durban	281p (-7½p)

Closing Prices Page 47

TEMPUS

Arnault or Ah, no

IT MUST be assumed that Bernard Arnault, the chairman of LVMH, knows what he is doing. To spend £800 million buying a 6 per cent holding in GrandMet requires a strategy, and given the recent rise in GrandMet shares it would have to be a good one. Having sold a bundle of Guinness shares at £4 and seen the price rise to £6, Arnault is now buying GrandMet at a premium. Given the price on offer, GrandMet holders may prefer to sell than see M Arnault's grand vision unfold.

The LVMH chairman seems to want to cement the spirits businesses of Guinness and GrandMet with Moët-Hennessy, a tripartite alliance that would mean ditching GrandMet's food businesses. Shareholders in GrandMet should view this with scepticism because it is likely to be better for the French company than for the two British combines.

The logic of the GMG tie-up is costs; the merged group would shed a head office, sales staff and reduce marketing costs but LVMH adds little to the party. The inclusion of Moët-Hennessy in a three-way deal will not substantially improve the potential to reduce costs. However, as a partner in such a merger, LVMH would share in any savings achieved by Guinness and GrandMet.

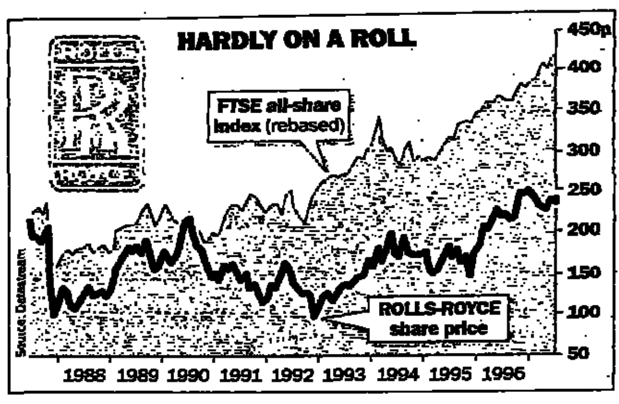
There is also the issue of GrandMet's food businesses, which Arnault would, apparently, prefer to see excluded from any deal. There is a clean logic in a pure spirits grouping but Burger King is currently showing better growth than drinks. Amid the disruption and expense of a merger, GMG will need some clean profits. But if the LVMH chairman is prepared to pay more than £6 to have his way, GrandMet investors should take his money.

Rolls-Royce

A LIST of orders as long as your arm is doing little for Rolls-Royce shares. As the jet-engine maker proudly announced a $2 billion addition to its workload the shares fell 7p. Admittedly, the market was in a black mood, but there are more *profound reasons for the* doubts. Rolls-Royce has been a jam tomorrow story almost since its flotation, and *the stock's high rating has* been justified by the hope that its huge investment in the Trent jet engine would pay off when civil aircraft orders picked up.

After years of procrastination and US airline insolvencies, the orders are coming through but the market is worried about gross margins. In a ferociously competitive industry aircraft engines have been sold at slim or nil margins on the logic that profits will be earned from maintenance. At least half of yesterday's order should be profitable as Allison engines are specified for the Embraer regional jets and Tay engines for the Gulfstream order.

The word from Rolls is that plants are in a frantic state trying to cope with a bulge of work. Ordinarily, volume increases should lead to better margins but there is no hint of that from the company. That could either mean inefficiency and bottlenecks or that the order book is not as profitable as hoped. Of course, Rolls may end up fooling everyone with a profits gusher, but the market is unconvinced.



Lloyd's corporates

BID RUMOURS fly about the conventional insurance sector but investors tend to ignore a £10 billion insurance market that is ripe for consolidation. With the Lloyd's reconstruction out of the way, the corporate vehicles that are rapidly taking over the market look undervalued on fundamentals and the prospect of takeovers — such as yesterday's bid for Matheson — adds to the excitement.

Many Lloyd's trusts are probably trading on a discount to their net worth. Quoted net assets only include shareholders' funds, which are typically invested in gilts or tracker funds at the same time as they are invested in the Lloyd's market. However, the Lloyd's vehicles collectively have probably earned about 30p in the pound from the last three years of underwriting. The three-year cycle of the Lloyd's market means that 1994's dividend is being paid this year and solid performances in 1995 and 1996 almost guarantee three years of good payouts.

Looking out three years, Limit is probably worth 170p or more compared to its share price of 130p. Included in that valuation is the value of the syndicate capacity it controls. Driving the consolidation of this market is the prospect of Lloyd's trusts becoming insurance companies by buying up syndicate capacity. The departure of individual names will accelerate and the corporate vehicles will soon dominate this market. As the largest vehicle in the sector Limit should prosper.

Body Shop

MORE SALES figures from Body Shop, more gloom for the shares. Body Shop seems incapable of delivering any good news; what with the revolt of French franchisees and embarrassment over its "trade not aid" relationship with Brazil's Kayapo Indians, Body Shop is being hurt by the ethical issues so dear to its founder.

At current levels Body Shop shares are undoubtedly cheap but it is struggling to find friends, in part because the retail sector has been spurned by investors in recent months.

Expansion in Asia will improve sales figures, but its future will depend on growth in more mature markets. The success of new advertising and marketing initiatives in the UK will be crucial. Profits of £43 million are forecast for the current year with a dividend of 6p. This group has the potential to improve but to achieve sparkling growth it needs more than gimmicks; it needs the capacity to reinvent itself. That may be too much to ask; in the meantime shareholders may have to settle for dividends.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Jul	1094-1092	Sep	1157-1153
Sep	1114-1111	Dec	1164-1163
Dec	1111-1110	Mar	1179-1175
Mar	1121-1120	May	1195-1189
May	1131-1129		
Jul	1145-1142		Volume: 7457

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jul	1840 BID	Mar	unq
Sep	1840 BID	May	
Nov	1840 BID	Jul	
Jan	unq		Volume: 5041

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Mar	313.1-12.5
Spot 329.0		May	312.1-10.2
Aug	321.0-20.7	Aug	310.0-10.0
Oct	315.5-15.0	Oct	304.6-03.5
Dec	313.1-12.6		Volume: 2583

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on June 19

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB	92.83	119.34	93.61
(+/-)	-8.85	+1.38	+1.44
Eng/Wales:	92.79	119.44	93.16
(+/-)	-9.99	+3.60	+1.39
(%)	-20.0	+31.0	+5.0
Scotland:	101.21	117.55	95.03
(+/-)	+1.59	-1.40	+1.56
(%)	-5.0	+70.0	-4.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.15	-0.35
Brent 15 day (Aug)	17.50	-0.30
Brent 15 day (Sep)	17.70	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Aug)	18.75	-0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	18.90	-0.30

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	188 (n/c)	190 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	157 (-1)	158 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	90 (n/c)	93 (n/c)
Naphtha	175 (n/c)	177 (n/c)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	158.25-58.50	Nov	167.25-67.50
Sep	160.50-60.75	Dec	169.00-69.25
Oct	162.50-63.00		Vol: 11742

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jul	17.49-17.50	Oct	18.05-18.08
Aug	17.69-17.70	Nov	18.10 BID
Sep	17.90-17.93		Vol: 29510

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

LIFFE WHEAT (close £/t)		LIFFE BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jul	78.75	Sep	80.00
Sep	83.25	Nov	83.00
Nov	86.25	Jan	85.00
Jan	88.25	Mar	87.00
Mar	90.45	May	88.50
Volume: 349		Volume: 35	

LIFFE POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	35.00
Mar		66.00
Apr	71.0	70.00
		Volume 22

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jul 69.75-70.25

LIFFE BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Jul 97	1165	1155	1156
Aug 97	1150	1141	1147
Oct 97	1340	1335	1336
Jan 98	unq	unq	1365

Vol. 173 lots Open interest: 3114

Index 1283 (-1)

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)			Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	Cash: 2718.0-2720.0	3mth: 2582.0-2583.0	Vol: 125830
Lead ($/tonne)	612.50-613.00	624.00-625.00	194825
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1373.5-1374.0	1394.0-1394.5	719025
Tin ($/tonne)	5555.0-5560.0	5600.0-5605.0	15345
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1562.0-1562.5	1583.5-1584.0	1303200
Nickel ($/tonne)	7085.0-7090.0	7185.0-7190.0	66330

LIFFE OPTIONS

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Alld Dom	420	13	32	35	10	20	30
(*420)	460	1	16	19	40	45	56
ASDA	110	10	12	15	1	3	4
(*119)	120	3	6	9	3	7	9
Boots	700	15	38	49	14	24	33
(*707)	750	3	17	28	49	54	60
Br Airways	650	44	63	76	3	12	18
(*689)	700	11	33	49	19	32	39
BP	700	23	42	56	10	24	31
(*712)	750	5	19	32	39	51	57
Br Steel	161	15	18	18	1	4	7
(*158)	180	1	5	8	12	14	17
C & W	550	20	41	54	18	30	37
(*551)	600	4	21	33	52	60	66
CU	650	26	55	71	14	40	49
(*664)	700	8	33	45	41	68	77
ICI	850	25	43	64	16	37	42
(*853)	900	7	22	41	49	67	72
Land Sec	800	43	64	74	3	11	18
(*837)	850	11	32	43	21	39	39
M & S	500	17	33	43	9	15	20
(*509)	550	2	11	19	40	44	47
Nat West	700	57	79	101	7	28	38
(*746)	750	25	52	75	23	51	61
Safeway plc	330	20	32	39	3	8	14
(*346)	360	4	16	24	17	22	29
Sainsbury	330	31	40	46	1	4	8
(*359)	360	9	20	25	9	15	19
Shell	1200	29	70	95	15	39	51
(*1225)	1250	15	44	69	39	64	75
Smkl Bch	1050	40	75	103	21	44	59
(*1066)	1100	19	50	77	48	69	84
Storehse	300	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trafalgar	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Zeneca	1900	92	143	170	14	53	70
(*1969)	1950	59	98	125	50	98	116
	Series	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**
BAT Ind	550	46	61	77	6	20	32
(*587)	600	17	36	52	26	48	57
Vodafone	290	14	24	32	6	12	16
(*297)	300	4	14	22	19	22	27
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Grnd Met	550	47	62	69	10	17	18
(*590)	600	20	34	40	30	39	39
Ladbroke	220	21	26	30	3	6	8
(*236)	240	9	14	19	10	15	17
Utd Bisc	200	12	16	20	7	10	11
(*201)	220	4	7	11	19	21	23

June 20, 1997 Tot: 46642 Call: 45519

Put: 41524 FTSE Call: 9647 Put: 12557

*Underlying security price.

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
BAA	500	40	60	68	1	7	12
(*545)	550	13	27	37	14	25	30
Thames W	650	26	34	43	21	32	44
(*668)	700	6	15	24	60	66	75
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
BTR	200	11	15	21	5	13	16
(*206)	220	4	9	14	21	26	29
Br Aero	1350	56	83	115	42	61	71
(*1352)	1400	33	59	89	70	88	98
Br Telcm	420	36	38	49	11	19	20
(*440)	460	11	15	19	34	37	43
Cadbury	500	29	39	49	8	18	21
(*515)	550	7	16	25	37	44	49
Guinness	550	53	65	73	6	16	17
(*591)	600	21	35	44	24	36	37
GEC	330	16	22	26	12	16	18
(*339)	360	4	10	13	32	35	36
Hanson	300	18	25	32	8	16	19
(*306)	330	6	12	19	26	33	36
LASMO	260	16	25	32	9	11	14
(*267)	280	8	16	22	17	22	24
LucasVarity	200	13	18	23	6	10	11
(*205)	220	5	9	14	17	20	22
Pilkingtn	120	11	—	—	3	—	—
(*126)	130	5	—	—	8	—	—
Prudential	550	56	68	82	13	22	27
(*591)	600	29	40	55	32	44	49
Redland	330	19	30	36	10	18	20
(*336)	360	6	16	23	27	34	36
R-Royce	240	15	22	28	7	12	16
(*245)	260	6	13	19	19	23	26
Tesco	360	22	29	37	9	14	17
(*370)	390	7	15	23	24	30	33
Williams	330	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	360	—	—	—	—	—	—

FTSE INDEX (*4602)

	4500	4550	4600	4650	4700	4750
Calls						
Jun	102	52	2	0	0	0
Jul	148	115	90	63	42	42
Aug	176	146	115	92	73	53
Sep	216	185	152	129	103	80
Dec	307	—	235	—	180	—
Puts						
Jun	0	0	0	48	98	148
Jul	60	78	99	126	157	194
Aug	90	109	129	157	184	218
Sep	106	126	149	173	201	232
Dec	140	—	177	—	230	—

		Calls			Puts		
	Series	Jul	Oct	Jan	Jul	Oct	Jan
Abby Nat	800	32	59	80	20	45	56
(*806)	850	12	38	57	51	74	85
Amstrad	140	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	160	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barclays	1150	49	94	118	26	64	81
(*1165)	1200	25	60	93	51	99	106
Natl Pwr	500	15	33	42	14	23	30
(*501)	550	2	13	21	49	54	59
	Series	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**	**Jul**	**Oct**	**Jan**
Glaxo Well	1250	37	71	100	27	61	72
(*1255)	1300	16	49	76	57	89	100
HSBC	1900	96	154	207	24	69	97
(*1967)	2000	67	102	155	66	116	145
Reuter	650	29	50	70	12	20	34
(*664)	700	7	27	46	41	53	61
Royal & Sun	420	39	52	60	2	13	19
(*459)	460	12	28	37	14	29	36
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Blue Circ	290	34	41	50	4	11	15
(*316)	320	15	24	31	15	24	28
	Series	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**	**Aug**	**Nov**	**Feb**
Kingfishr	730	32	47	61	17	28	35
(*739)	750	11	24	37	47	56	62
	Series	**Jun**			**Jun**		
Br Gas	240	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	260	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Series	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Mar**	**Sep**	**Dec**	**Mar**
Dixons	480	44	56	64	12	17	22
(*494)	500	20	34	42	29	35	42
EMI Group	1100	60	89	103	61	74	83
(*1111)	1150	41	68	81	91	102	112
Tarmac	120	10	12	14	4	7	8
(*124)	130	5	7	10	9	12	14
Hillsdwn	160	22	—	—	1	—	—
(*176)	180	6	—	—	7	—	—
Lonrho	120	12	14	15	3	5	7
(*126)	130	6	9	10	8	9	12
Sears	90	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorn EMI	1500	—	—	—	—	—	—
(unq)	1600	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tomkins	260	12	18	20	11	14	17
(*264)	280	4	10	12	22	27	29
Lloyds TSB	600	14	62	72	30	39	50
(*611)	650	22	40	50	59	67	78
Scot Pwr	360	26	33	34	13	17	21
(*373)	390	12	18	19	30	33	36
Unilever	1700	66	102	129	44	60	72
(*1727)	1800	29	51	90	106	117	127

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
Long Gilt	Jun 97	113-18	113-30	113-15	113-29	69
Previous open interest: 162793	Sep 97	113-06	113-17	112-31	113-16	35573
German Govt Bond (Bund)	Sep 97	101.04	101.41	100.94	101.32	143608
Previous open interest: 247787	Dec 97	100.10	100.30	100.10	100.37	2019
Italian Govt Bond (BTP)	Sep 97	132.87	133.46	132.75	133.31	49947
Previous open interest: 90161	Dec 97	105.85	105.85	105.85	105.91	10
Japanese Govt Bond (JGB)	Sep 97	123.87	123.90	123.77	123.86	912
	Dec 97	123.20	123.21	123.20	123.18	70
Three Mth Sterling	Sep 97	93.04	93.06	93.02	93.04	19548
	Dec 97	92.83	92.85	92.82	92.85	12156
Previous open interest: 485605	Mar 98	92.71	92.73	92.69	92.73	6731
Three Mth Euromark	Sep 97	96.82	96.83	96.81	96.82	15336
Previous open interest: 1399522	Dec 97	96.71	96.72	96.69	96.71	11465
Three Mth Eurolira	Sep 97	93.45	93.53	93.43	93.50	18215
Previous open interest: 298831	Dec 97	93.76	93.80	93.76	93.80	9027
Three Mth Euroyen	Dec 97				99.39	0
	Mar 98				98.86	0
Three Mth Euroswiss	Sep 97	98.54	98.62	98.53	98.59	10540
Previous open interest: 132614	Dec 97	98.40	98.45	98.37	98.43	4086
Three Mth ECU	Sep 97	95.83	95.84	95.82	95.82	1261
Previous open interest: 29558	Dec 97	95.79	95.79	95.77	95.78	284
FTSE 100	Jun 97	4655.0	4660.0	4630.0	4644.5	6273
Previous open interest: 98046	Sep 97	4685.0	4710.0	4580.0	4644.0	17583

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6½ Finance Hse 7

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6½ Low 6 Week fixed: [illegible]

Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]. Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth: [illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overnight: open [illegible], close [illegible]					
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.59	n/a	5.66	5.74	6.00
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

TREASURY BILLS: Applicts: £1,073m allotted: £200m; Bids: £98.40% received: 39%; Last week: £98.42% received: 9%; Avge rate: £6.4037% last wk £6.3110%; Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $340.20-340.50 **Close:** $338.25-338.75 **High:** $340.20-340.50 **Low:** $338.00-338.50 **AM:** $339.55 **PM:** $338.20

Krugerrand: $337.75-339.75 (£204.25-206.25)

Platinum: $420.00 (£254.00) **Silver:** $4.76 (£2.875) **Palladium:** $200.00 (£120.90)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for June 20	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	3.1953-3.2241	3.2210-3.2241	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Brussels	58.500-59.181	59.079-59.181	18-13pr	54-47pr
Copenhagen	10.814-10.914	10.904-10.914	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	1.0858-1.0985	1.0942-1.0985	6pr-par	18-11pr
Frankfurt	2.8397-2.8664	2.8632-2.8664	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Lisbon	286.42-288.94	288.60-288.94	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Madrid	239.63-241.78	241.52-241.78	31-20pr	102-84pr
Milan	2784.2-2803.2	2799.4-2803.2	par-16ds	3pr-2ds
Montreal	2.2528-2.3019	2.2987-2.3019	1.45-1.37pr	2.05-1.96pr
New York	1.6464-1.6545	1.6535-1.6545	0.135-0.115pr	0.418-0.387pr
Oslo	11.931-12.035	12.019-12.035	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Paris	9.5880-9.6747	9.6622-9.6747	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Stockholm	12.697-12.811	12.795-12.811	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Tokyo	186.63-189.77	189.52-189.77	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Vienna	19.982-20.160	20.149-20.160	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Zurich	2.3465-2.3848	2.3817-2.3848	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr

Source: Extel *Premium - pr Discount - ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3342-1.3351
Austria	12.17-12.18
Belgium (Com)	35.67-35.71
Canada	1.3900-1.3905
Denmark	6.5877-6.5897
France	5.8380-5.8400
Germany	1.7295-1.7305
Hong Kong	7.7420-7.7430
Ireland	1.5104-1.5124
Italy	1691.90-1693.40
Japan	114.58-114.68
Malaysia	2.5135-2.5145
Netherlands	1.9458-1.9463
Norway	7.2613-7.2663
Portugal	174.33-174.43
Singapore	1.4270-1.4280
Spain	145.95-146.00
Sweden	7.7332-7.7382
Switzerland	1.4398-1.4408

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.6525-1.6552
Australia dollar	2.2061-2.2083
Bahrain dinar	0.6145-0.6265
Brazil real*	1.7744-1.7789
China yuan	13.446-13.796
Cyprus pound	0.8365-0.8465
Finland markka	8.4525-8.5685
Greece drachma	446.00-453.00
Hong Kong dollar	12.9006-12.8100
India rupee	58.48-59.44
Indonesia rupiah	3938.7-4075.4
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4935-0.5035
Malaysia ringgit	4.1575-4.1616
New Zealand dollar	2.4113-2.4145
Pakistan rupee	66.00 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.9325-6.0565
Singapore dollar	2.3586-2.3617
S Africa rand (com)	7.3730-7.4750
U A E dirham	5.9850-6.1090

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	1,400	Land Secs	2,500
ASDA Gp	15,600	Legal & Gn	7,300
Abbey Ntl	9,000	Lloyds TSB	20,300
Allied Dom	10,200	LucasVarity	4,300
AB Foods	2,500	Marks Spr	9,600
BAA	3,300	Mercury Ast	708
BAT Inds	17,400	NatWst Bk	8,300
BG	17,600	Nat Grid	6,100
BOC	2,700	Nat Power	4,900
BP	17,000	Next	1,500
BSkyB	6,200	Orange	3,300
BTR	18,300	P & O	2,400
BT	34,200	Pearson	2,600
Bk of Scot	5,100	PowerGen	3,300
Barclays	5,100	Prudential	9,400
Bass	4,600	RMC	1,600
Blue Circle	1,700	Railtrack	2,400
Boots	2,700	Rank Group	4,200
BAe	1,600	Reckitt Col	1,300
BA	5,600	Reed Intl	2,100
British Land	2,700	Rentokil	6,500
Brit Steel	8,300	Reuters	6,800
Burmah Cstl	863	Rio Tinto	4,100
Burton	13,900	Rolls Royce	6,200
Cable Wire	8,900	Royal & Sun	8,900
Cadbury	4,700	Royal Bk Sct	3,200
Carlton Cms	2,200	Safeway	7,300
Centrica	21,500	Sainsbury	5,500
Cm Union	3,400	Schroders	216
Dixons	2,600	Scot & New	1,200
EMI	2,700	Scot Power	2,600
Energy Gp	2,400	Svrn Trent	1,600
Enterpr Oil	1,100	Shell Trans	10,000
GKN	800	Siebe	3,400
GRE	4,400	SmKl Bch	9,000
GUS	3,000	Smith Nph	11,800
Gen Acc	2,000	Smiths Inds	675
Gen Elec	8,800	Std Chartd	4,700
Glaxo Well	10,300	TI Gp	1,100
Granada	3,200	Tate & Lyle	5,100
Grand Met	17,200	Tesco	7,400
Guinness	10,800	Thames W	1,800
HSBC	3,800	Tomkins	10,700
Hanson	2,200	Unilever	1,400
Hays	1,100	Utd Utilities	1,000
ICI	7,000	Utd News	1,100
Imp Tob	3,900	Vodafone	12,700
Kingfisher	2,600	Whitbread	1,200
LASMO	4,100	Wolseley	1,100
Ladbroke	5,400	Zeneca	2,900

WALL STREET

	Jun 20 midday	Jun 19 close
AMP Inc	42	41
AMR Corp	94	93
AT & T	37	37
Abbott Labs	67	66
Advanced Micro	37	37
Aetna Life	109	109
Ahmanson (HF)	45	45
Air Prod & Chem	84	84
AirTouch Comm	29	28
Albertson's	38	38
Alcan Alumnm	35	35
Allied Signal	82	81
Alum Co of Am	76	76
Amerada Hess	54	55
Amer El Power	41	41
Amer Express	78	77
Amer Genl Corp	48	49
Amer Home Pr	78	78
Amer Intl	148	149
Amer Stores	49	49
Amer Standard	45	45
Ameritech	70	70
Amgen	59	59
Amoco	89	89
Andrew Corp	26	26
Anheuser-Busch	42	42
Apple Computer	15	15
Archer Daniels	21	21
Armco	4	4
Armstrng Wrld	73	73
Asarco	30	30
Atl Richfield	73	73
Atmel Corp	27	27
Auto Data Pro	48	48
Avery Dennison	38	38
Avon Products	70	70
Baker Hughes	37	38
Baltim Gas & El	26	27
Banc One	47	47
BankAmerica	64	64
Bank of NY	49	47
Bankers Tr NY	90	90
Barnett Banks	54	54
Bausch & Lomb	44	44
Baxter Intl	54	54
Becton Dicknsn	52	52
Bell Atlantic	77	76
BellSouth	46	46
Black & Decker	37	37
Block (H&R)	32	32
Boeing	56	56
Boise Cascade	37	37
Boston Scien	62	62
Bristol Myrs Sq	79	78
Browning Ferris	35	35
Brunswick	31	31
Burlington Nthn	89	88
CMS Energy Corp	35	35
CPC Intl	87	90
CSX	55	55
Campbell Soup	49	49
Can Pacific	28	28
Carolina Pwr	35	35
Case Corp	65	65
Caterpillar	107	107
Central & SW	21	21
Champion Intl	53	53
Chase Manhat	104	103
Chevron Corp	74	74
Chrysler	32	32
Chubb Corp	67	67
Ciena Corp	184	185
Citicorp	124	127
Clorox	131	132
Coastal Corp	52	52
Coca Cola	71	71
Coca Cola Ent	23	23
Colgate-Palm	65	65
Columbia Gas	66	66
ColumbiaHCA	37	[illegible]
Compaq Comp	106	107
Comp Ass Intl	56	54
Conagra	64	64
Cons Edison	30	30
Cons Nat Gas	54	54
Cooper Inds	51	51
CoreStates	56	56
Corning Inc	55	55
Crestar Finl	41	41
Crown Cork	55	55
Dana Corp	38	38
Dayton Hudson	53	53
Deere	55	56
Delta Air Lines	90	[illegible]
Deluxe Corp	33	33
Digital Equip	37	37
Dillard Dept St	35	35
Disney (Walt)	82	82
Dominion Res	37	37
Donnelley (RR)	37	36
Dover Corp	61	61
Dow Chemical	86	86
Dow Jones	40	40
Dresser	36	35
Duke Power	47	47
Dun & Brdstreet	27	26
Du Pont	61	61
Eastman Chem	61	61
Eastman Kodak	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eaton Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Jun 20 midday	Jun 19 close
Edison Intl	25	25
Elec Data Sys	41	42
Emerson Elec	57	56
Engelhard Corp	21	21
Enron Corp	40	41
Entergy	27	27
Ethyl Corp	9	9
Exxon	63	62
FMC Corp	78	77
FPL Group	47	47
Federal Express	58	59
First Bk Sys	87	87
Fleet Finl Grp	64	64
Fluor Corp	56	56
Ford Motor	39	38
Fortune Brands	37	37
GTE Corp	45	45
Gannett	98	98
Gap Inc Del	38	39
Gencorp	23	25
Gen Dynamics	77	77
Gen Electric	67	67
Gen Mills	65	65
Gen Motors	55	56
Gen Reinsurance	187	187
Gen Signal	45	45
Genuine Parts	35	34
Georgia Pac	90	89
Gillette	95	95
Glaxo Wellc ADR	41	42
Goodrich (BF)	46	46
Goodyear Tire	61	61
Gt Atl Pac Tea	27	27
Great Wstn Fin	55	55
Halliburton	76	76
Harcourt General	49	49
Heinz (HJ)	46	47
Hercules	48	48
Hershey Foods	57	57
Hewlett Packard	54	54
Hilton Hotels	29	27
Home Depot	69	69
Homestake Mng	13	13
Honeywell	78	78
Household Intl	113	111
Houston Inds	22	22
Humana	23	24
ITT Corp	59	59
Ikon Office	23	32
Illinois Tool	52	51
Illinova	22	22
INCO	31	31
Ingersoll Rand	60	[illegible]
Inland Steel	26	25
Intel Corp	146	146
IBM	91	89
Intl Flav & Fr	51	50
Intl Paper	50	50
James River Va	37	37
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	65	65
Kellogg	83	83
Kerr-McGee	63	64
Kimberly-Clark	51	51
Kmart	12	12
Knight-Ridder	47	47
Lilly (Eli)	107	107
Limited Inc	19	21
Lincoln Nat	67	67
Litton	48	48
Liz Claiborne	47	47
Lockheed Martin	96	96
Louisiana Pac	21	21
MCI Comm	39	39
Manpower Inc	47	46
Marriott Int	64	63
Marsh & McLnn	145	144
Masco Corp	42	42
May Dept St	49	49
Maytag Corp	27	27
McDonalds	50	51
McDonnell D	[illegible]	[illegible]
McGraw Hill	61	60
Mead Corp	64	64
Medtronic	83	82
Mellon Bk	46	46
Merck Inc	100	99
Merrill Lynch	61	61
Microsoft	128	128
Minnesota Mine	100	99
Mobil Corp	139	138
Monsanto	42	42
Morgan (JP)	109	108
Motorola Inc	71	70
Natl Semi	31	31
Natl Service Ind	47	46
Navistar Int	17	17
NY Times A	50	50
Newmont Mng	39	39
Niagara Mohawk	9	8
Nike B	61	60
NL Industries	13	13
Noram Energy	15	15
Nordstrom	49	49
Norfolk Sthrn	100	100
Nthn State Pwr	50	51
Norwest Corp	56	58
Nynex Corp	59	59
Occidental Pet	24	24
Ohio Edison	21	21
Oracle	49	49

	Jun 20 midday	Jun 19 close
Oryx Energy Co	20	20
Owens Corning	44	44
PPG Industries	59	59
PMI Group	58	59
PNC Bank	44	44
PP&L Res	20	20
Paccar Inc	50	50
Pacificorp	22	22
Pac Enterprises	33	32
Pall Corp	23	23
Parker Hannifin	57	57
Peco Energy	20	20
Penney (JC)	52	52
Pennzoil	59	59
Pepsico	38	38
Pfizer	112	112
Pharm & Upjhn	34	34
Phelps Dodge	87	88
Philip Morris	47	47
Phillips Pet	43	43
Pitney Bowes	72	73
Polaroid	51	51
Procter & Gmbl	141	142
Providian	32	33
Pub Serv E & G	25	25
Quaker Oats	43	42
Ralston Purina	85	86
Raychem Corp	71	71
Raytheon	53	52
Reebok Intl	47	47
Reynolds Metals	72	72
Rockwell Intl	60	60
Rohm & Haas	89	89
Royal Dutch	207	207
Rubbermaid	29	29
SBC Comms	61	60
Safeco Corp	48	47
St Paul's Cos	79	79
Salomon Inc	58	58
Sara Lee Corp	42	42
Schering Plough	49	49
Schlumberger	120	120
Seagram	40	40
Sears Roebuck	53	53
Shell Trans	121	123
Sherwin Wlms	32	32
Silicon Graphics	16	16
Skyline Corp	25	25
Snap-On-Tools	40	40
Southern Co	21	21
Sprint Corp	51	51
Stanley Works	43	43
Sun Company	30	30
Sun Microsys	36	36
Suntrust	58	58
Supervalu	36	36
Sysco Corp	37	37
TRW Inc	57	56
TCC Inds	2	2
TIG Hldgs	30	30
Tandem Comp	15	15
Tandy Corp	56	56
Temple Inland	59	58
Tenet Healthcare	29	29
Tenneco	44	44
Texaco	110	110
Texas Inst	87	87
Texas Utilities	34	34
Textron	65	64
Thermo Elect	37	38
Time Warner	49	49
Times-Mirror A	58	58
Timken	36	36
Torchmark	72	72
Toys R Us	33	34
Transamerica	93	93
Travelers	65	64
Tribune	48	48
Tyco Int	70	70
UST Inc	30	30
UAL	73	72
US Inds	37	36
US West Comm	37	37
US West Media	21	21
USAirways Group	35	35
USX Marathon	29	29
Unicom	22	22
Unilever NV	209	208
Union Camp	53	53
Union Carbide	48	48
Union Pacific	70	70
Unisys Corp	7	7
USF&G Corp	24	24
United Tech	86	86
Unocal Corp	40	40
VF Corp	85	[illegible]
Wal-Mart Stores	33	33
Warner-Lambert	112	112
Waste Mngmt	33	33
Wells Fargo	287	287
Westinghouse El	23	23
Weyerhaeuser	54	55
Whirlpool	54	53
Whitman	23	23
Winn Dixie	41	41
Witco Corp	38	37
Woolworth	25	25
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	63	63
Xerox	75	75
Zenith Elect	12	12

ص ١ من الاصل

GILT ATTRACTIONS 43

Treasury tries to attract more buyers

WEEKEND
MONEY

INTO ACTION 43

Top brass help for plight of service widows

THE TIMES: PERSONAL FINANCE NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR

Perks and Peps under pressure

Anne Ashworth and **Karen Zagor** look at the implications of tax changes expected to be made by the Chancellor

ANGUS MEWSE

The £7 billion black hole discovered this week in the public finances has raised the chances of higher taxes in the Budget. Employee benefits, the perks of the job, and personal equity plans (Peps) could be two of the targets.

■ **Perks:** the taxation of company cars is now less lenient, with employees paying as much as 35 per cent of the cost of the car in tax. However, Deloitte & Touche, the accountancy firm, suggests that the Chancellor could alter rules cutting tax bills for those who drive more than 2,500 business miles a year. Some believe that these concessions encourage the use of cars, contrary to Labour policy.

Car parking was taxed as a perk until 1988 when it was abandoned as too administratively complex. However, Mr Brown could still rule that the taxable benefit of this perk should reflect the cost of parking in a commercially run site. A season ticket for a National Car Park in the West End of London costs £5,220 a year. A higher rate taxpayer would face a tax bill of £2,090 on the benefit.

Tax relief on PRP is already being phased out from a maximum of £4,000 to £2,000 in 1998, £1,000 in 1999 and to nil in the year 2000. Philip Fisher of Chantrey Vellacott, the accountants, says Mr Brown could bring forward the removal of the tax relief and prevent the registration of new schemes. Labour is hostile to schemes that allow employers to save by offering tax-free PRP as a substitute for a pay rise.

■ **Peps:** the nation's three million Pep investors would be left some £100 million poorer from a 5 per cent reduction in the dividend tax credit, now seen as almost a foregone conclusion. The current rate is 20 per cent. Among the other losers would be anyone paying into a pension, charities and higher-rate taxpayers with shareholdings. According to Chantrey Vellacott, the 19 million pension scheme members and personal pension plan holders would be £1.4 billion worse off — almost equivalent to a 1 per cent rise in income tax.

The dividend tax credit is a by-product of Advance Corporation Tax (ACT) which is paid by companies when they distribute a dividend. Pension funds, charities and other tax-exempt funds are entitled to reclaim this tax. Pension funds may receive an extra £4 to £5 billion a year from this source. The shortfall from a lower tax credit rate would mean higher employer and employee contributions.

A tax credit cut would also make Peps significantly less attractive for basic-rate taxpayers. There is no income tax on the dividends earned by Pep investments. The Pep managers reclaim the tax credit on behalf of investors. If the tax credit were lower, so would be the income earned by the Pep. Higher-rate taxpayers would still be better off, because if they held the investments outside a Pep they would pay an additional amount of tax on the dividend.

■ **Childcare:** the Chancellor's hopes to cut government spending by encouraging lone parents back to work are now seen as likely to founder, unless he can introduce tax incentives or benefits to help to pay for childcare. In a report to be published next week the Daycare Trust will call on the Chancellor to use the windfall tax receipts to introduce a new, targeted childcare benefit payment. The organisation estimates that the changes would cost the Treasury £200 million but would ultimately mean savings in benefit payments and increased tax revenues. At present, the tax system's only contribution to the cost of childcare is the workplace nursery scheme. The only childcare help for families on welfare is the Childcare Disregard, which pays an average of £18.71 a week.

The Daycare Trust proposes an allowance of up to £70 per week per child under the age of 14 for families on or just above the Family Credit limit. Family Credit is the state benefit for working families on a low income. The trust estimates the changes would help 450,000 families.

If he were minded to introduce tax incentives for childcare, Mr Brown could find models in other countries. In Canada, parents who need to employ someone to look after their children while they work can get tax relief of up to $5,000 for every child under the age of seven and $3,000 for children between seven and 16. In France, where childcare is free for three to five year olds, 82 per cent of single mothers work, compared with only 41 per cent in Britain. In Sweden, where 70 per cent of single mothers are employed, the state covers the cost of day care for 72 per cent of three to six year olds.

In the UK, a typical two-earner family with two children can expect to pay at least £120 a week, or £6,240 a year, in childcare.

Peps special, pages 39-41

Lenders fear big stamp duty rise will kill recovery

Any move to levy big rises in stamp duty in next month's Budget will send the housing market recovery into a tailspin, with the booming London and South East market hardest hit, lenders said this week (Sara McConnell writes).

Rumour is rife that Chancellor Gordon Brown could raise the duty by up to 7 per cent in his Budget. Currently buyers have to pay stamp duty of 1 per cent on transactions of over £60,000, immediately adding at least £600 to the cost of housebuying. At 8 per cent, the cost would rise to £4,800 on a property costing £60,001. A buyer completing on a property costing £100,000 would face an extra bill of £8,000.

Barry Naisbitt, chief economist at Abbey National said: "There would be a very significant upfront cost and many people would withdraw from the market." He added: "There would be a very sharp effect in Greater London where the average property now costs more than £100,000."

The Council of Mortgage Lenders predicted that a large rise in stamp duty would "definitely thrust the market back into slump" and cause a "massive downturn" in levels of transactions. It argued that the projected tax take of £14 billion a year was too high because such a prohibitive rate of stamp duty would force down the number of sales. Currently stamp duty raises about £1 billion a year for the Treasury.

Housebuyers should step up pressure on their solicitors, estate agents and sellers to complete their purchases before July 2 to protect themselves from the possibility of large stamp duty rises, the council said. Buyers cannot prepay the tax to benefit from the existing rate.

The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) has warned the Chancellor that "any increase in stamp duty, particularly to a rate as high as 6 per cent or 7 per cent, would price many homebuyers out of the market and deal a severe blow to a market which remains fragile in many parts of the country".

RICS called on Mr Brown to change the structure of stamp duty so that only the part of the price over the stamp duty threshold is taxed.

Currently buyers become liable for tax on the whole purchase price immediately they breach the threshold.

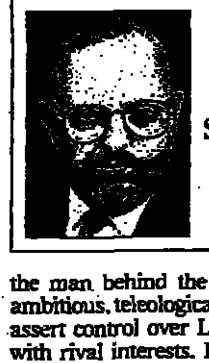
Lenders are also continuing to press Mr Brown not to reduce or abolish tax relief on mortgage interest relief (Miras). After the latest rate rise, the tax break is worth £30 a month on interest of up to £30,000, up from £28.50 a month. Observers believe the absence in the Government's

continued on page 34, col 6

WEEKEND MONEY
is edited by Anne Ashworth

Cocktails at twenty paces

PERSONAL INVESTOR



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Don't get in bed with the French is a maxim that public companies in Germany and the Low Countries, as well as Britain, have learnt too late. Like any prejudice, it is unfair. Many successful French firms are more strategically acute and better managed than their rivals. As partners, however, French industrialists tend to operate as French diplomats from the same schools do in Brussels: pursuing national interest ruthlessly and aiming to control the enterprise without paying.

French management is often good, but this style grates with the Anglo-Saxon way of doing things — not least respect for rights of other shareholders. Some of us were therefore dubious from the start about the much-lauded 1987 agreement that yoked Guinness and Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton in a deal—vital to the fortunes of both.

The agreement symbolised a new start after the trauma of the Ernest Saunders affair. It centred on joint marketing of the two companies' top wines and spirits brands, including Johnnie Walker Scotch and Gordon's Gin, in key markets such as Japan, the Orient and America. Given that Guinness would have been barred from buying a top French drinks group, this looked the next best thing. But the continental-style agreement was, of necessity, complex. It was also buttressed by substantial cross-shareholdings. These were not equal.

LVMH, as it is abbreviated, had a direct stake in Guinness, once a near-controlling 24 per cent, now 14 per cent. But Guinness's stake in LVMH was really in the pocket of Bernard Arnault, the man behind the deal. It helped the ambitious, teleological French financier to assert control over LVMH after a battle with rival interests. In 1994, this scheme was replaced by one that left Guinness a prisoner of M Arnault. It took a direct 34 per cent minority stake in Moët Hennessy, an LVMH subsidiary. Few shareholders raised an eyebrow, because the joint venture marketing companies did jolly well. They account for a third of Guinness trading profits.

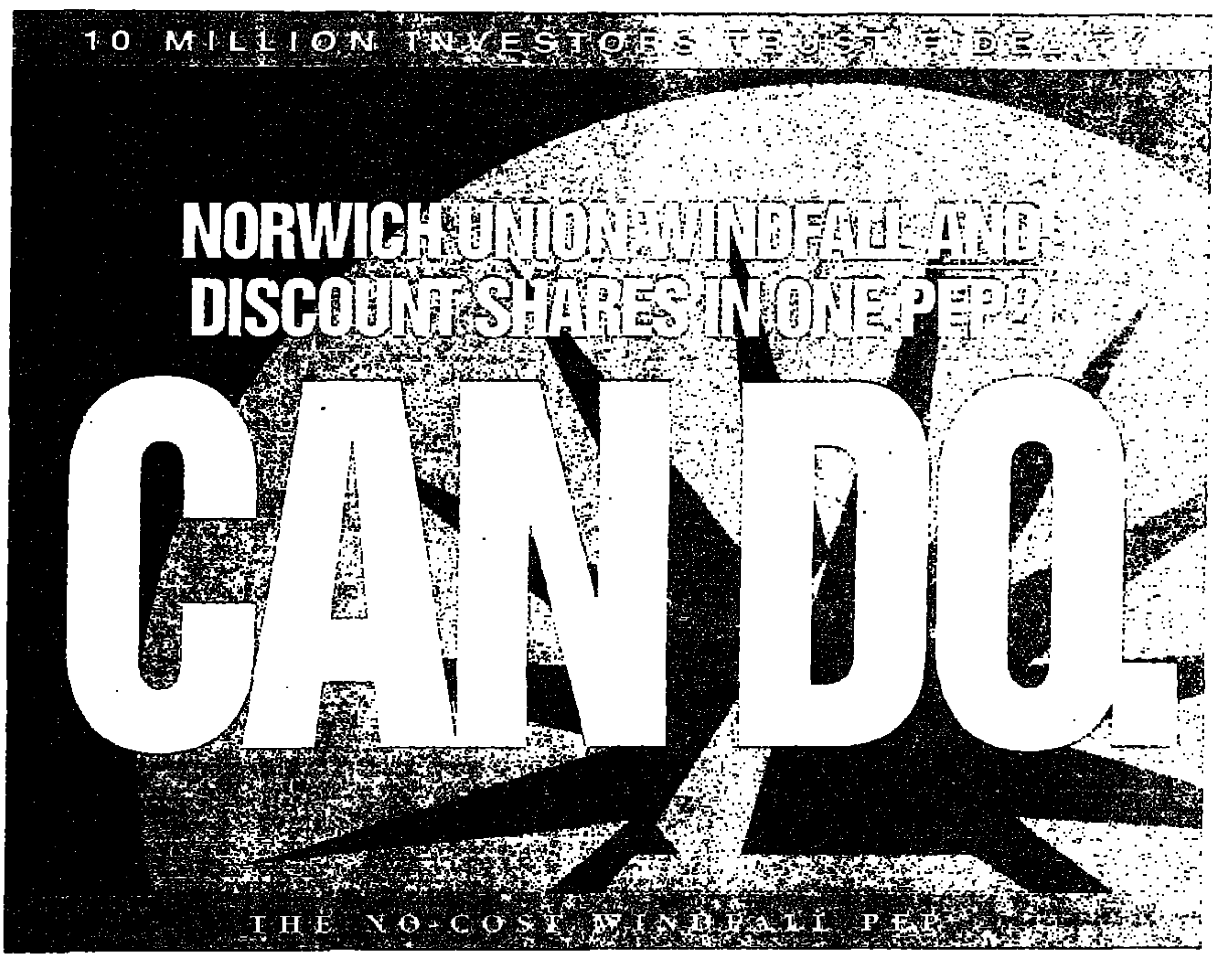
For those who cared to look, however, the arrangements wove an ideal web to help M Arnault to gain effective control of Guinness, or its main spirits division, should he wish to do so.

The world spirits trade as a whole, though strong, is somewhat stagnant, along with the fortunes of Guinness and the other two big UK players: failed brewers Grand Metropolitan and Allied Domecq. What to do? Fund managers demanded some corporate manipulation to boost their quarterly returns. The Anglo-Saxon answer was a mega-merger between Grand Metropolitan and Guinness, much of whose post-Saunders management had come from GrandMet's IDV. The brands fitted, jobs could be slashed and monopoly positions reinforced.

Again, Guinness management underestimated M Arnault, a non-executive director who has ammunition and every right to press LVMH's strong interest. M Arnault was against it. But so what. He was just a minority shareholder. So LVMH has thrown the book of contracts at Guinness, forcing law suits or arbitration, and has bought a costly bargaining stake in GrandMet. One more hostile voice in battles with competition authorities would not help either.

M Arnault seems to have an alternative plan to merge and float separately the spirits arms of Guinness, GrandMet and LVMH. In the spirit of the Guinness joint ventures, this might have more industrial logic. Except that everyone knows the merged company would somehow come under M Arnault's control. But the British groups face an uphill battle to bring their own plan to fruition. Watch this space.

The mess stems from trying to marry direct Anglo-Saxon ways, which force Guinness to do something exciting for shareholders, with a continental style that cherishes long-term relationships but exerts minority control that leaves outside investors in the cold. The advantages are not all one-way. Had Eurotunnel not been an Anglo-French joint venture, it would have gone bust long ago.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Sara McConnell assesses the repercussions for staff as employers switch their pension schemes

The lady's definitely not for churning

What can you do if your employer suddenly announces plans to downgrade your pension arrangements, potentially exposing you to extra risk and costs?

As Weekend Money revealed last month, growing numbers of employees are coming under pressure from employers to switch from traditional occupational pensions to group personal pensions.

Such schemes are cheaper for employers but unlike traditional pensions force employees to carry most of the cost, paying often high set-up charges out of their contributions. Regulators have promised tougher rules on sales of group personal pensions. But many employers are already being persuaded to switch to group personal pensions by insurance salesmen apparently more interested in their commission than in giving good advice.

Marcia Rhodes of Stockport, Cheshire writes:

"I have worked for the same employer since 1974. An occupational pension scheme was, however, only introduced in October 1993, with payments backdated to 1992. Before this date employees were encouraged to take out personal pension plans. We now find that the trustees of the scheme have been approached by the firm of independent financial advisers instrumental in setting up the original scheme and strongly advised to cancel the existing scheme in favour of a group personal pension plan (precisely the scenario described in your articles).

"My question is: To which body can I and like-minded colleagues turn to obtain impartial advice and, if necessary, arbitration? I remain convinced that, with only 12 years to go to my proposed retirement age of 60, my financial and legal interests would be best served by remaining with the existing occupational pension scheme, despite promises by the advisers to make up any shortfall which will occur in the transfer value of the current fund. The new provider has offered to cover up to 11 per cent in penalty charges and the financial advisers have offered a further possible top-up of 3 per cent from their own firm's funds. If the transfer value is still considered too low, the original policy would be paid up — no further contributions would be paid in but the existing fund would continue to be managed — and contributions would be made to the new plan.

"I feel that the trustees and employees are being subjected to a hard sell without anyone realising the full implications of a switch."

Weekend Money replies:

There are now more rules governing occupational pension schemes than ever before, as governments and employers try to exorcise the ghost of Robert Maxwell. Employees could be forgiven for thinking their future retirement income is protected. New laws dictate everything from calculating transfer values to winding up schemes. But there is actually no rule forcing an employer to offer you a particular type of scheme or indeed a pension at all. The provision of pensions for employees is entirely voluntary. In practice most employers offer some form of pension, partly because it helps them to attract and keep good workers. But there is nothing to stop them changing the scheme or even winding up the whole thing.

According to the Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority (Opra), which regulates your existing arrangements, you can object to changes in your pension only if they are unlawful (ie, some technical rule has been broken) or your contract of employment specifies certain pension arrangements. Such contract terms are rare and in your case do not apply as you signed your contract well before your company pension was set up. What this adds up to is that most employees who are being faced with changes to their pension arrangements cannot expect help from Opra even if they do not like what is being offered.

And, as you have discovered, anyone making a fuss risks being told "take it or leave it" by their employer. If you and your colleagues all refuse to take the group personal pension, your employer could wind up the scheme and pay you all off, leaving you to make your own arrangements. He would not have to make any more contributions to your pension.

So is a group personal pension better than nothing? A strong argument in favour is that your employer will continue to contribute to your pension. And a group personal pension may be no worse in the end than your existing scheme. Benefits from both schemes depend on how much you have put in and how the investment performs, rather than your final salary.

But you should question the whole basis on which you are being asked to change, says Mike Wadsworth, partner at Watson Wyatt, the actuary. What are the terms of the new arrangement? What are the investment arguments? What can you get from a group personal pension that you cannot get from your existing scheme? And most important, what will it cost?

PAUL COUSANS

Marcia Rhodes says trustees and staff are being subjected to a hard sell without anyone realising the full implications

Even if transfer costs are covered, you will still have to pay set-up costs, which include a hefty £2,500 upfront commission from the adviser for each scheme member. This means only 89 per cent of your contribution is invested in the first five years and only 98 per cent after that until you retire.

Mr Wadsworth comments that such charges "carry the slight suspicion that the advisers are not solely concerned with individual beneficiaries". Put more bluntly, your employer's financial advisers could be trying to "churn" your company pension schemes to net themselves more commission. This is definitely not suitable advice and should certainly be investigated by regulators.

Confusingly, group personal pensions are regulated not by Opra but by the Personal Investment Authority under the Financial Services Act. The PIA has the power to go through a firm's files and demand explanations for the advice given. But your employer, not you, is technically the adviser's client and he would have to make a complaint if he felt he had been given poor advice.

Lenders fear duty rise will kill house sales

Continued from page 33

election manifesto of any promise to keep Miras was significant and indicated plans to abolish it.

The CML argues that removing the tax break would damage lower-income home owners most and estimates that the majority of households outside the south of England have mortgages of £30,000 or less.

Others argue that abolition would be a bad political move. Maurice Fitzpatrick of Chantrey Vellacott the chartered accountant, said: "I think Miras is off limits. It is psychological not economic". He predicted that mortgage rates could rise to 9 per cent next summer which would push the benefit of Miras up to £34. The higher interest rates rise the more difficult it is to abolish Miras.

The value of Miras has been steadily eroded since 1988 when the then Chancellor Nigel Lawson abolished "double Miras" which gave each occupant rather than each property tax relief. At its peak in 1990/1991, the relief cost the Treasury £8.9 billion. In 1996/1997 it is expected to cost just £2.3 billion.

Household bills could also rise if insurance premium tax, currently charged at 4 per cent on most general insurance policies, were to rise to 12 per cent.

There is a higher rate of tax on insurance sold with goods or services — in particular travel insurance. The Chancellor could harmonise both of these rates into a single tax rate to avoid the distortion which currently exists. At present, travel insurance sold by a travel agent is liable to IPT at 17.5 per cent. If the customer were to buy the same cover from a bank next door to the travel agent, the rate of IPT would be 4 per cent.

A combined rate of 12 per cent would also bring United Kingdom rates more in line with those charged in other European Union states and would be a significant revenue raiser for the Government.

Although the insurance industry has lobbied hard to have IPT frozen at 4 per cent, the tax has actually had little effect on the sale of policies and the Chancellor may feel it is a relatively painless way to bring in extra funds.

Likewise air passenger duty, a tax levied on passengers departing from UK airports, could also rise in theory, although tax experts Deloitte & Touche believe Labour is more likely to leave it unchanged. The tax is currently levied at £5 if the passenger's destination is within the EU and £10 if it is outside. The rates are scheduled to increase to £10 and £20 respectively on November 1 this year.

SARA McCONNELL AND
MARIANNE CURPHEY

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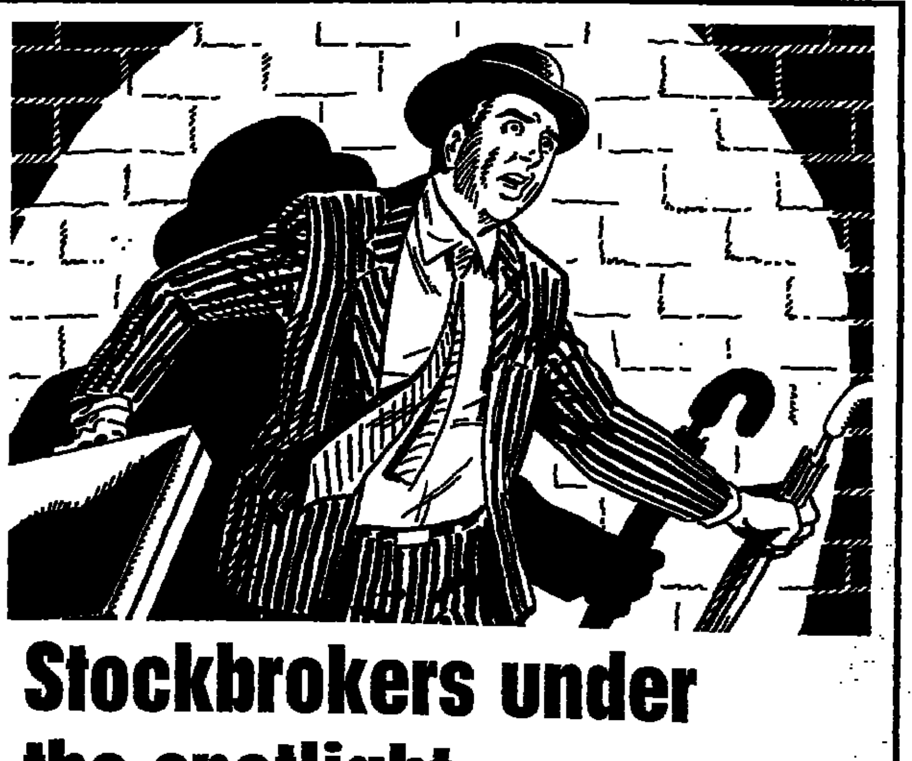

Stockbrokers under the spotlight

This week's issue of Investors Chronicle turns a critical spotlight on stockbrokers. What are the benefits of a good stockbroker - is he really worth his weight in gold? We look at the range of services, and the array of charges. We see how investors rate stockbrokers and examine how to get the best value from a broker. Plus we have a round-up of the best-buy dealing only services.

The service from your stockbroker affects investment performance. Are recent problems from high volumes of business now easing? How closely tuned are stockbrokers to meet the needs of the private investor? And what will be the impact of new Private Investors Indices?

We also examine the strength of smaller investors within the market. How real is the threat of being marginalised by the bigger institutional players, and what could be the costs? More positively we consider cheap and free information sources for private investors and the prospects for dealing on the Internet.

You'll also have the chance to give us your views on stockbrokers. Complete and return the stockbroker questionnaire and you could win a £6,000 Pep*.

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The butler serves up a Big Mac

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

This week Big Macs and building societies have had something in common. The obsessive activities of the McLibel Two may permanently have altered the way we view the hamburger chain. Although McDonald's may have won its court case against the environmentalist pair, the public's view of the group has become more sceptical.

The Nationwide has, likewise, rid itself of an irritant, by some form of subtle persuasion. Michael Hardern, the aspiring Nationwide director, has suddenly espoused mutuality, abandoning his attempt to compel the society to become a bank. But, despite his abrupt conversion, the consequences of Hardern's intervention remain.

A Bible-quoting butler, prone to falsifying his date of birth on account application forms and said to converse with an imaginary pet cat, may prove to have had a more profound influence on the fate of the industry than many upstanding, soberminded society bosses with animate feline friends.

The Hardern episode has caused a reassessment of building societies. While our enthusiasm for conversion windfalls remains undimmed, we also wish to see some institutions remain which will put savers before shareholders.

We want biodiversity in the savings and borrowing sphere. This would mean small local societies with a special place in their local community and larger societies with generous savers' rates. Meanwhile, former societies, such as the Halifax, would offer competitive mortgage rates.

Those who are depressed by this wholesome vision and who prefer a windfall now to an extra half a per cent in interest need not be downcast. The City still believes that the Nationwide will be taken over. As we promised last week, the Nationwide show should hold our attention for some time yet.

DTC hits you and me

DIVIDEND tax credits are fiendishly complex, which is one reason why the Chancellor would find it easy to cut their value in the forthcoming Budget.

A lower rate dividend tax credit would not a snappy headline make. Even if some deft sub-editor could contrive to fashion some play on words, most people would conclude that the move meant higher taxes for the wealthy. Dividends suggest large shareholdings, still seen as the preserve of the rich.

The reverse is true, as we point out on page 33. A cut in the dividend tax credit would affect millions of people of modest means who are saving pensions and personal equity plans. Scarcely fat cats.

Caroline Merrell on a busy week for Nationwide and others

Societies act swiftly to ward off unwelcome speculators

GILL ALLEN

Off the road to conversion: Michael Hardern experienced a dramatic change of heart

As speculation about the future of the building society industry reached fever pitch this week, four societies, including the Nationwide, took action to prevent speculators from opening new accounts.

The Nationwide, now the UK's biggest building society, has been at the centre of a series of near farcical events in past few days, culminating in a change of heart by Michael Hardern, the dissident member and aspiring director who had previously aspired to force the Nationwide to convert.

Now the society faces restaging a ballot to elect directors at next month's annual meeting. Meanwhile the debate over whether it will succeed in remaining independent continues. On Tuesday, the Nationwide raised the minimum investment on its accounts to slow the pace of account opening. On Wednesday, it was forced to close its doors to new customers. Accounts were being opened at five times the usual rates by carpetbaggers eager for a windfall. In May alone £300 million was deposited in the society.

The Nationwide became the focus of conversion rumours when it was revealed that Goldman Sachs, the merchant bank employed to defend the society against takeover, had put the Nationwide's value at £7 billion.

Mr Hardern, a freelance butler, had put himself up for election to the Nationwide board, with four other like-minded individuals. If elected, they all promised to force the society to convert. Ballot papers giving Mr Hardern's election statement have already been sent out to its three million members.

However, in a remarkable *volte face*, Mr Hardern has entirely changed his mind about conversion. At a meeting on Thursday in a cafe in a London square, Mr Hardern announced that he no longer believed in conversion. He said that Brian Davis, Nationwide's chief executive, had "convinced me there is something in mutuality". Mr Hardern is still pledging windfalls of £1,000 per person as part of his election stance. But the Nationwide denies that he can legally unlock this money, if there is no conversion.

In a rambling statement, Mr Hardern said that it did not make sense for the Nationwide to become a bank. "People don't like banks, people hate banks, they loathe and detest banks," he added. Mr Hardern, outlined his vision for the Nationwide and said he would like to see it selling Internet terminals and perhaps items such as coffee, cars and holidays. The Nationwide said that it was pleased to see its position vindicated. Mr Davis said that the Nationwide believed staying as a building society was in the best long-term interests of customers.

Portman, Lambeth and Coventry were also forced to take action against the speculators this week. The Portman, which this week agreed its takeover of the Greenwich, has raised its minimum opening requirement to £1,000 on all savings schemes, while the Coventry announced that it required the opening balance on its postal account to be £5,000, its other accounts require a minimum balance of £2,500. The Lambeth Building Society closed all but one of its accounts to new investors. The only account now available at this society is the Olympos account, where the minimum investment has been pushed up from £2,500 to £5,000.

Bristol & West members will in the next few days be given information about their entitlement to the cash and share bonuses they will receive under the terms of the takeover by the Bank of Ireland Group. A fixed £500 cash distribution and a variable cash distribution will be given to qualifying two-year members. Others who had less than £100 in their accounts on certain dates will get a cash bonus of £250.

☐ **Norwich Union**, the first mutual insurance company to float, made its stock market debut this week bringing an average windfall of £1,200 to its nearly three million members. The share price opened the week at 290p, then immediately soared to 356p. If ended the week at 327p, however, this still meant that those who had applied for shares under the public offer are now looking at a paper profit of 62p per share. Those who applied for about £5,000 worth of shares, close to the average application size of £6,000, were allocated 36 per cent of the shares they applied for. These shareholders will now be sitting on a profit of about £420 on their additional 680 shares.

The public offer for the shares was hugely oversubscribed with Norwich Union members applying for £4.65 billion of shares when only £1.2 billion were available. The applications had to be massively scaled back.

PRICE CHECK

Woolwich shares are now expected to reach between 304p and 312p according to the unofficial "grey market" run by IG Index, the financial bookmaker. This represents a fall on the grey market opening price of June 17 of between 332p and 340p. Yesterday's grey market price means that the 450-share minimum windfall will be worth around £1,400.

The anticipated price of Woolwich shares dropped because of the experiences of the Norwich Union, where the price of shares initially soared and then dropped back a little.

Halifax shares had a very good run during the week. On Monday, shares opened at 754p, but as the week drew to a close the shares shot up to 775p. The rise in the share price came as the index-tracking funds prepared for the entrance of the Halifax in to the FTSE 100 index on June 23. The average windfall of 310 shares will now be worth £2400. Halifax shares rose despite the market as a whole falling during the week.

Alliance & Leicester shares also rose during the week. The price of shares rose 5½p over the week to end at 620½p. Shareholders who chose to hold onto their shares windfall of 250 shares would now have holdings worth £1,551.

Norwich Union, the first mutual insurance company to float, made its stock market debut this week at 290p. The shares had a volatile start, but eventually ended up at 327p, representing an average windfall of more than £1,500. Those who applied for extra shares under the terms of the public offer are now on average looking at profits of £380.

Other companies such as Friends Provident and NPI are now tipped to be taken over.

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Playing the long ball: Eric Cantona was drafted in to advertise the Eurostar service but shareholders fear an own goal over the refinancing deal

D-Day for Eurotunnel

Nathan Yates says long-suffering holders may have had enough

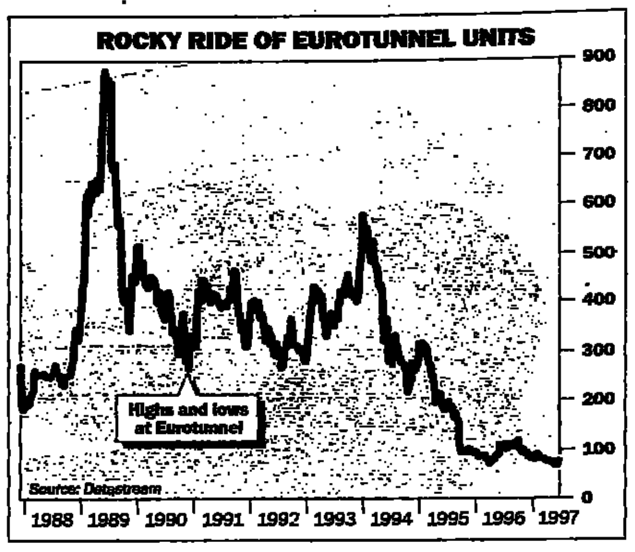
For the 720,000 private investors in Eurotunnel, the day of reckoning may finally be at hand. On July 10 they will decide whether to vote for an £8.9 billion "debt for equity" rescue which has been thrashed out with the 174 creditor banks. Eurotunnel says their decision will determine whether one of the century's most ambitious engineering companies is resurrected or consigned to the dustbin.

With the refinancing deal in the offing and the Channel Tunnel reopening for freight traffic this week, Eurotunnel says its long-suffering shareholders can look forward to profits. If the deal goes ahead, the first dividend could be paid in 2005, the board says. However, for some investors it is too late for more promises. A growing number are poised to reject the refinancing deal as a sell-out to the banks. For those pondering their ballot papers, the question is, where do their interests really lie? According to Eurotunnel, a "yes" vote is the only answer. "If investors block the banks' package it is likely the company would be wound up and shareholders would lose all their holdings, including travel privileges," Eurotunnel says. "It is crucial that investors accept this deal."

Creditor banks may be allowed to take back the licence under which Eurotunnel operates if the refinancing is not approved. Eurotunnel says the banks would utilise this "right of substitution", and with the Channel Tunnel in the hands of another operator, investors would lose their holdings. But rebels dismiss the offer. They say it throws away their rights and future profits, and even bankruptcy would be a better option. In return for reducing debts from about £8.9 billion to £4 billion, the banks would take a big slice of the company.

Immediately after the deal, current shareholders would own just 54.5 per cent of Eurotunnel, with a further dilution to 39.4 per cent in 2003 if institutional bondholders decide to convert to equity. If Eurotunnel is unable to pay its interest bills, by 2006 current holdings could be cut yet again to 24.5 per cent.

The £4.9 billion reduction in debts is insufficient reward for such a loss in future earnings, the rebels claim. And according to George Berlioz, lawyer for the shareholder pressure group Adapte, the threat of "substitution" is less potent than Eurotunnel likes to admit.



ROCKY RIDE OF EUROTUNNEL UNITS

If the refinancing deal is blocked, M Berlioz says banks would face a powerful legal challenge against substitution of the operator. "The substitution clause was written into the contract so that the tunnel could be completed if Eurotunnel dropped out," he says. "It is now defunct, and I'm confident the courts would see it as such."

If the removal of Eurotunnel's contract were blocked, the company would enter bankruptcy proceedings under French law, which prioritises company survival over the interests of creditors. According to Mr. Berlioz, the most likely outcome would be a judicial restructuring of Eurotunnel's debt, much of which could be written off after actions claiming overlending and mismanagement by the banks.

M Berlioz admits that there are many uncertainties in this process, but insists shareholders have nothing to lose. "Shareholders will not receive dividends for the next ten years anyway. The only people who would gain from a quick end to the debt problem would be the banks, who would receive interest on their loans. The banks are attempting a bluff with no cards," he said. With shareholders' interests in the balance, the outcome of next month's ballot is uncertain. The rebels need just one quarter of British small investors' votes to block the refinancing deal, and one third of the French contingent. More information about the Eurotunnel ballot and refinancing package is available on the shareholder helpline, 0345-697-397. Adapte can be reached on 00331-4824 1189.

John Tyzack is one of the Eurotunnel faithful. He has held his 1,000 shares since Eurotunnel's launch in 1987, and in that time he has seen his original outlay of £3,500 shrink spectacularly. With the current price below 70p, Mr Tyzack's holding is now worth about £700, about a fifth of his initial investment.

There have been occasions when Mr Tyzack could have made a profit on his Eurotunnel shares. In 1989 prices soared to over £11 amid City speculation that Channel Tunnel traffic would wipe out competition from ferries. A report by Salomon Brothers even predicted that shares would hit £20 by the end of the century.

However, the Nineties saw a series of Eurotunnel failures. The opening date was delayed until November 1994, more than a year later than was planned, and the Eurotunnel became locked in a pay dispute with construction contractors. A multi-billion-pound budget gulf opened up, and Eurotunnel attempted to close it with a series of loans and rights issues.

In 1990 it borrowed an extra £1.8 billion, and issued shares worth £556 million. In 1994 a further issue produced £858 million, but debts continued to climb. Last year the debt mountain of more than £8 billion was attracting £2 million interest every day, and the Channel Tunnel fire in November compounded this by temporarily putting an end to freight traffic. The company's value slumped.

Mr Tyzack's losses are now so large that whichever way the vote goes next month he has given up hope of regaining a respectable slice of his investment. "I have no hope now that the shares will rise significantly," he said. "The banks have an unsympathetic attitude now the tunnel is complete, and it is clear another operator will step in and make the profits. The only gain for me now is the 30 per cent shareholders' travel discount, but if Eurotunnel is liquidated I expect even this will go."

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The General goes into action again — this time in Whitehall

For the past three months Weekend Money has reported on the plight of war widows and service pensioners who felt let down by successive governments. With a change of government, there is optimism that the situation will improve. **Jenny Grove** reports

PHIL YEOMANS

Kate Bartholomew, pictured in April, when Weekend Money highlighted the problems of widows who married after their husbands left the services

Campaigners for better rights for armed forces widows are to put their case to Labour, in the hope of justice from the new Government. The 54,000 strong Officers' Pensions Society, headed by Major-General Peter Bonnet, is seeking a meeting with John Reid, Armed Forces Minister.

The society, which campaigns on behalf of all ranks, is trying to reopen the debate on the Armed Forces Pensions Scheme, several aspects of which it sees as unfair. Young widows lose their pensions if they remarry. This threat of the removal of their pensions means that they are unable to get loans because their income is not guaranteed. Elderly widows receive severely reduced pensions, simply because their husbands retired before a certain date.

In Parliament last month Oliver Letwin, MP, asked a question about widows who receive only one-third of their husband's service pension. However, John Spellar, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, refused to raise the rate from one third to one half on the grounds that improvements to major public service schemes "should not be retrospective".

About 52,000 elderly widows still receive "third-rate" pensions simply because their husbands completed their military service before March 31 1973. On that date the rate was raised from one third to one half, but ministerial munificence was not extended to widows of those who had already retired — their pensions remained at the old rate.

"The blatant unfairness of this is that these are elderly widows of men who fought for the nation through the Second World War. Last year MPs had no difficulty in breaching the no-retrospective principle when they voted themselves retrospective improvements in their pensions," General Bonnet commented.

Coronation Street recently drew attention to another shortcoming of military pensions when it featured Clare Palmer, a war widow who fell in love. In the television series, Clare forfeited her war widows' pension when she decided to live with Des Barnes, only to lose both her man and her income when the relationship foundered. A war widow loses her Department of Social Security and Forces Family pensions if she remarries or lives with a man as husband and wife. These pensions are now restored if the second relationship ends.

The ramifications are far reaching. War widow Jane Burrows, 32, whose husband was killed by an IRA bomb seven years ago, was refused a loan on the grounds that her pension was not paid for life.

"We are campaigning for all military widows' and widowers' pensions — not just war widows — to be paid for life, in line with private sector practice. That was what Sir Michael Bett recommended in his review of the Armed Forces Pension Scheme," General Bonnet said. The society is also fighting for widows such as Kate Bartholomew, 75, who gets no military pension, because she married Major John Bartholomew after he had left the Army. His first wife died in 1973, and he retired from the forces in the same year.

Until April 6, 1978, widows of post-retirement marriages received no military pension. On that date the rules were changed to enable such widows to get a pension, but only if their husbands served in the forces after April 1978.

Also on the agenda are widows such as Mrs Betty Ives, 72. Mrs Ives' husband, Major Desmond Ives, received a depressed pension because he left the Army during the so-called pension "trough" year of 1977. His pension was based on pay rates on the day he retired, then limited by pay restraint.

By contrast that year, pensions of those already retired leapt 17.7 per cent — in line with the RPI. As a result, his pension was much lower than those of equivalent rank and length of service who had retired before him. Since his death 12 years ago, Mrs Ives' pension — one half of her husband's — has been correspondingly lower.

'MPs voted themselves a retrospective pension rise but refused war widows'

BARRY GREENWOOD

Jane Burrows with her son Mark holding a picture of her late husband Stephen who was killed on duty in Northern Ireland. She was refused a car loan after his death on the grounds that her war widow's pension was not paid for life

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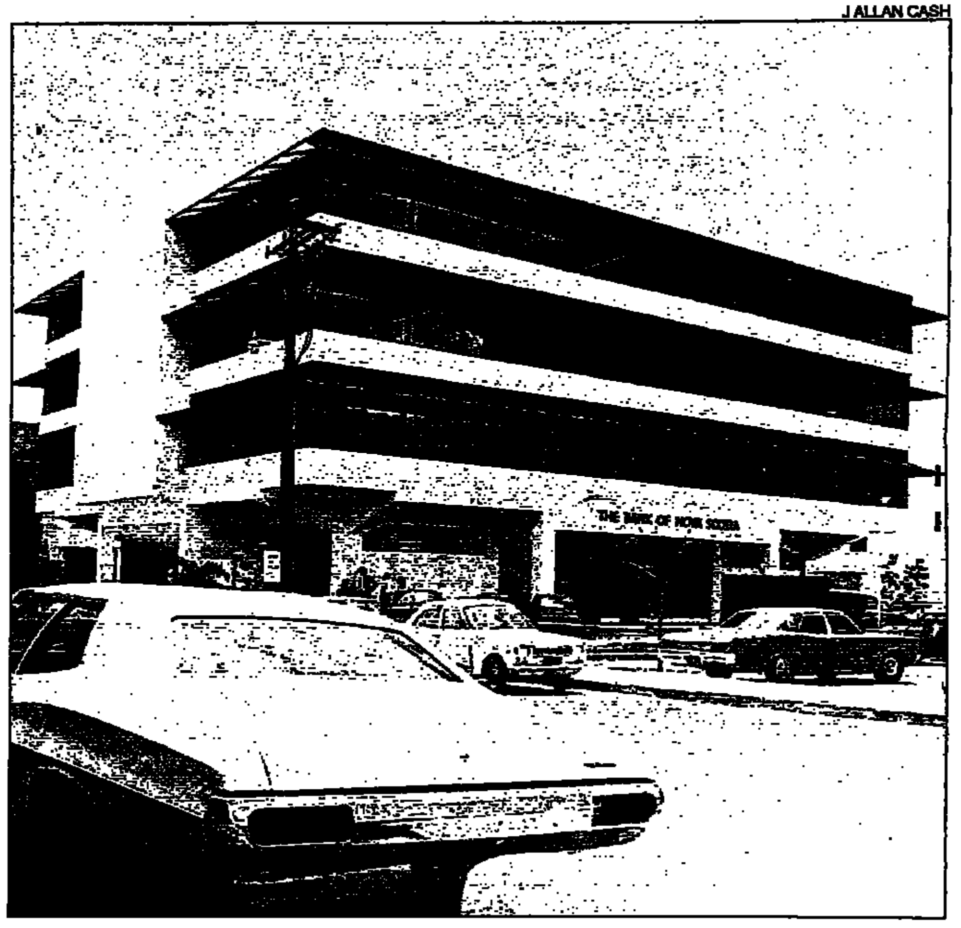
Adam Jones says the Chancellor is looking closely at tax havens

Thinking of going offshore?

TOM HANLEY

Behind the palm-fringed beaches, areas such as the Cayman Islands have nearly $500 billion in deposits and big US banks stand next to subsidiaries of UK high street banks

J ALLAN CASH



Investors with money in offshore trusts could find the rules governing their tax affairs tightened up in the new Chancellor's first Budget next month.

Before the election, the Labour Party gave warning that some offshore financial arrangements needed to be taxed more rigorously, railing against the "excessive level of secrecy that is designed to frustrate both the Inland Revenue and UK law enforcement officers".

Now, with Gordon Brown's first Budget due on July 2, those members of the UK public with assets held in one of the world's many tax havens may be wondering if they are to be squeezed.

Offshore financial houses operate out of a range of "jurisdictions" such as the Caribbean or the Channel Islands.

For private investors, the services available offshore include sterling and foreign currency bank accounts, mortgages, bonds and managed funds, as well as trusts formed to hold assets at arm's length. There is also a range of aggressive products which could not operate in the UK's tight regulatory regime, such as the fabled hedge funds whose speculation on currency movements have been held responsible, due to some exaggeration, for episodes such as the pound's traumatic withdrawal from Europe's exchange-rate mechanism. The choice is much more diverse than that found in a UK high street, with international players such as the big US banks standing shoulder to shoulder with subsidiaries of familiar UK faces.

> Interest rates offered offshore are generally no better than those on the high street

One senior offshore banking figure believes a change is likely in the tax treatment of trusts. He said: "I suspect the Labour Government will be looking at inheritance tax (IHT) very closely. If you want IHT to bite, then you have to look at the way people are avoiding it. One way is quite clearly through trusts."

David Kilshaw, a tax partner at KPMG, says Gordon Brown could end a provision that allows people with offshore trusts created before 1991 to defer capital gains tax until the money is brought back into the country. He could make the tax payable immediately or raise the interest rate charged on the deferred tax.

Contrary to the widespread preconception, customers using offshore services are not all British expatriates. They include doctors, dentists, accountants and lawyers who want to shield some of their assets from possible professional indemnity claims, as well as rich individuals who use offshore trusts as part of tax planning strategy.

Among them are also foreign nationals living in the UK and residents of politically unstable countries seeking a secure home for their money.

The Treasury has so far given little away on Labour's plans to tackle the offshore tax and regulation issues. A Treasury spokesman was enigmatic, saying that Dawn Primarola, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, was examining all the available options of revenue raising. It is unlikely that the tax treatment of offshore bank accounts, perhaps the simplest offshore financial arrangement, will be significantly changed. The biggest jurisdictions, such as the Cayman Islands, have nearly $500 billion each in banking deposits, with the Channel Islands holding about $230 million, both from a global base.

UK banks are making their offshore accounts more mainstream by introducing services found on the mainland, such as telephone and even Internet banking in the case of Royal Bank of Scotland, but they very rarely advertise in Britain. This is partly because the banks want rich customers who are more likely to come to them than be lured by an advert.

Besides, the interest rates offered offshore are generally no better than those on the high street. The circumspection may also be due to a reluctance to alienate the Revenue, which might not be too happy about banks persuading UK taxpayers to transfer their assets out of the country as taxpayers must declare all money earned outside the UK each year.

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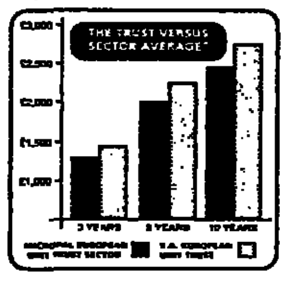

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Pep providers target £30bn windfalls

Thousands of people who never ventured beyond the safety of a building society now have shares. **Caroline Merrell** explains how to shield these gains from tax

ELIZABETH WHITING

Windfalls, like these juicy apples lying in a Kent garden, are often sweeter than plucked fruit. Windfall shares have the same effect on their recipients

A few fortunate souls have managed to scoop a full house of windfall shares in this summer's £30 billion wave of conversions With three of this year's five flotations of former mutuals now completed, some are now holding packages of shares worth an average of £5,000.

Those who have shares with Norwich Union and Halifax, worth a total of £3,500 still have the opportunity to put their shares into a personal equity plan (Pep) in order to shelter any capital gains and income from tax.

Under a concession from the Treasury, passed by the previous Government, these shares can be put in to a Pep at zero value. This means that windfall beneficiaries can not only put their free shares into a Pep, but they can also use their annual allowances of £6,000 for a general Pep and £3,000 for a single-company plan.

Sadly, it is now too late for those with an Alliance & Leicester windfall to put their shares into a Pep. Those who bought extra Norwich Union shares through the discounted public offer, can also Pep their shares. However, these shares cannot be transferred into a Pep at zero value. This means that the amount of shares that you transfer will be deducted from your annual allowances.

The argument in favour of pepping windfall shares is very strong. Norwich Union and Halifax's dividend yield could be about 3 per cent. A saver with an average windfall from both these organisations will be paid total annual dividends of £105. Pepping these two windfalls will save £42 of tax for a higher-rate tax payer, £24 for a basic-rate tax payer and £21 for a lower-rate tax payer.

The question for the millions of newly fledged building society shareholders is where they should put their windfall shares. Some companies will accept the shares into a Pep, while others will demand that the shares exchanged for units in unit trust Peps. It is also possible to hold the shares within a single company Pep — however, windfall investors should note that it is only possible to take out one single company Pep per year.

Pepping schemes

The schemes that allow the windfall shares themselves to be used include plans by Fidelity. This scheme has a nil initial annual charge until April 1999. After that, the fund management company will charge a flat rate of £15 pa. This charge will be waived if the shareholder takes out a Fidelity Pep with a minimum contribution of £30 a month, or a £1,000 single contribution.

Gartmore, the unit trust company now owned by NatWest, will accept the windfall shares in its investment trust Pep. The plan carries no initial charge, however, it does carry an annual charge of 0.5 per cent, a 1 per cent charge for reinvesting the dividends and another 1 per cent charge for switching to another class of share within the trust. This Pep also requires that the windfall investor put another £100 per month in the plan or invest an additional £1,500.

Guinness Flight's windfall Pep carries no initial charge and a 1 per cent annual fee. The fund manager does not require windfall investors to put any more of their own cash in the Pep. Other windfall Peps that require no extra investment include those offered by Mercury, M&G, Perpetual and Save & Prosper. Mercury's has no initial charge and will only charge the Pep holder a maximum of £15 per year, regardless of how many shareholdings are transferred. M&G's Pep will cost £8 pa per shareholding, while Perpetual will charge a £4 dividend fee. Those who want to sell their shares in this latter Pep will be charged 1.65 per cent. Save & Prosper's windfall Pep has no initial charge. The shares will be held free until 1999 after which a £10 pa per shareholding fee will be levied.

Fund managers that want extra investments in their Peps include Henderson, Invesco, Schroder and Singer & Friedlander. Henderson for instance, has no initial charge, but will charge a £5 dividend collection fee. Anyone who puts their windfalls in Henderson's Pep will have to invest an additional £1,000 or will have to put another £100 per month in the scheme.

Invesco's Pep carries an initial charge of £15 per shareholding plus 1.5 per cent pa. This scheme also carries exit penalties in the first year. Those who choose an Invesco scheme will have to put an extra £35 per month in to the Pep, or invest a lump sum of £1,000. Schroder is offering windfall investors an investment trust Pep. This carries no initial charge, but instead carries an annual charge of 0.5 per cent. This company insists that a further lump sum investment of £3,000 be put in the Pep.

Many brokers will also accept windfall shares in Peps, among them Killik & Co, Albert E Sharp and Capel Cure Myers. Killik offers general and single-company Peps. It will charge £7.50 per dividend received. A minimum investment of £2,000 is needed.

Albert E Sharp's Pep carries only an annual charge of 1.25 per cent of the portfolio value and also offers general and single-company Peps. The scheme carries a minimum investment of £3,000.

Out of all the Peps on offer that allow investors to hold on to their shares, BESt Investment, the independent financial adviser, only recommends those plans from Perpetual and Guinness Flight.

Exchanging shares

Some financial advisers believe that it is not worth holding on to windfall shares, as the banking sector itself is overvalued. Over the past few days, the FT-SE 100 index has begun to fall, on the back of fears over increases in interest rates.

As the banking shares have climbed on average higher than the rest of the shares in the market, they could fall further.

John Spiers, of BESt Investment, said: "Halifax shares are trading at almost double the level predicted six months ago. For private investors just doing nothing has been the best policy , but we think bank shares are no longer a one-way bet."

He added: "Owning individual shares is not the best investment policy for most people, it involves too much risk and requires continuous monitoring. Our advice is to buy into a managed fund." The eagerness among fund managers to attract windfalls means that many are offering cheap entry into their funds.

Those that are offering exchange options into Peps include HSBC, Kleinwort Benson, Marks & Spencer, Schroder, Jupiter and Virgin Direct. None carry an initial charge for setting up the Pep. Kleinwort Benson, HSBC and Jupiter will charge for buying the units, all carry annual management charges of up to 1.5 per cent.

Those who do choose to exchange their windfalls for units should look at the past performance of the funds.

☐ *The Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds is offering a free guide to windfall shares. To obtain a copy, please telephone the association on 0181 207 1361.*

PEPS AND BONUS SHARES

Anyone resident in the UK for tax purposes who is aged 18 or more can buy a Pep (Marianne Curphey writes). An investor may take out just one general plan and one single-company plan every tax year, running from April 6 to the following April 5. Up to £6,000 can be sheltered from tax in the general plan. A total of £3,000 can be sheltered in the single plan.

Husbands and wives each have a Pep allowance, so a couple could invest up to £18,000 a year in Peps.

In addition to your total £9,000 allowance, the Inland Revenue has decided that windfall shares from the demutualisation of Norwich Union and the Halifax, Woolwich, Northern Rock and Alliance & Leicester are of nil value and can be transferred into your Pep in addition to the maximum holding. This ruling applies to shares transferred into a Pep within 42 days of issue.

Though they are classed as having no value, when you come to sell the free shares you will make a capital gain equivalent to their original value plus any appreciation in the interim. For this reason, if you have several sets of windfall shares and you intend to sell them all in this financial year, you should consider Pepping them. If they are worth more than £6,300 together and not in a Pep, you will have to pay capital gains tax at your highest rate of tax.

Several fund managers will allow you to hold shares within an ordinary Pep. They include Fidelity, John Govett and Perpetual.

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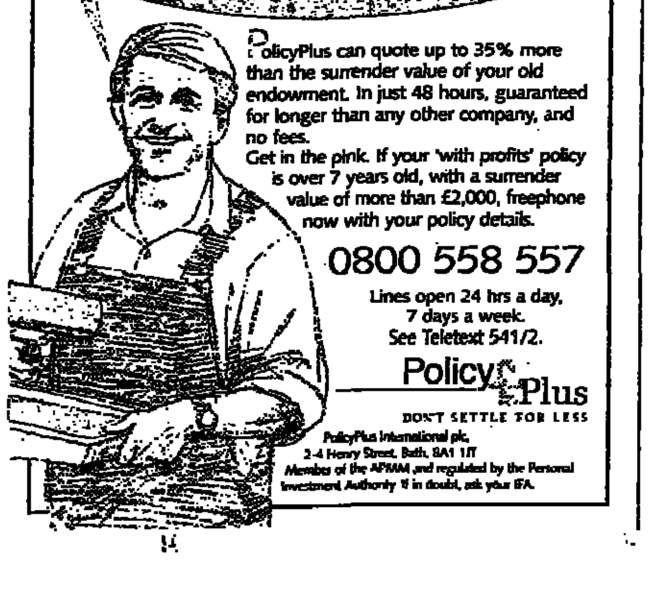
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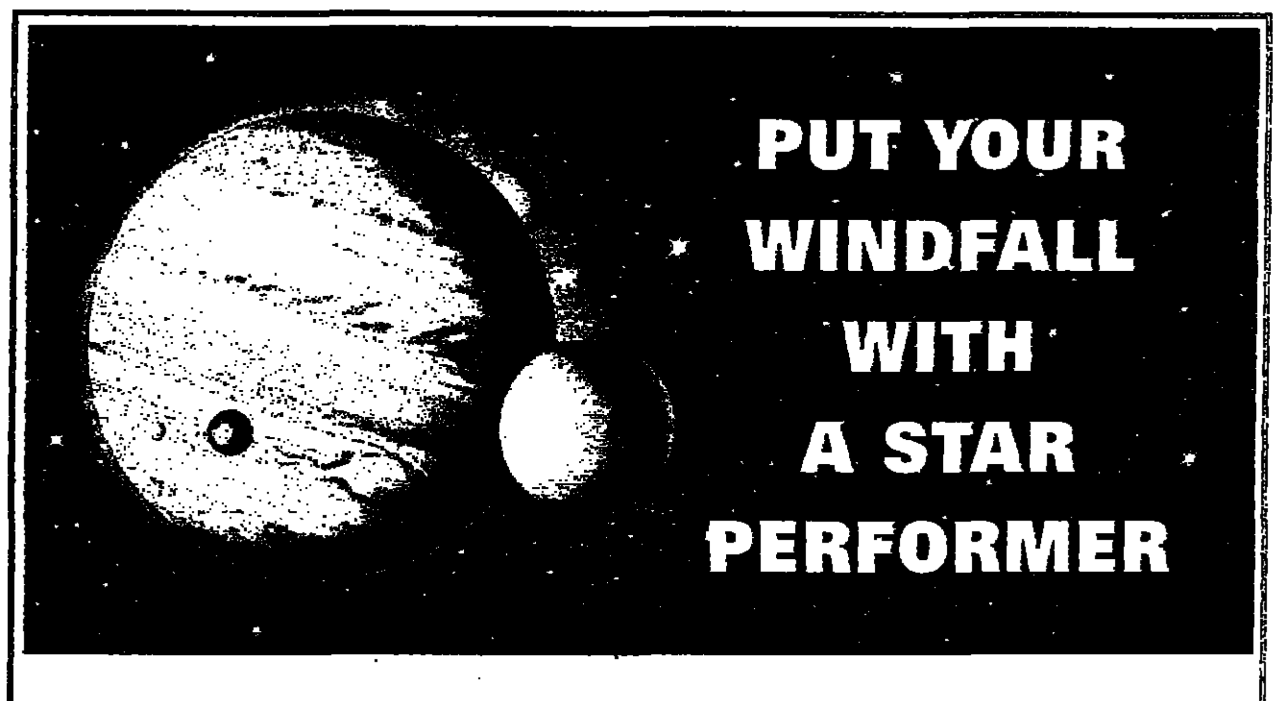
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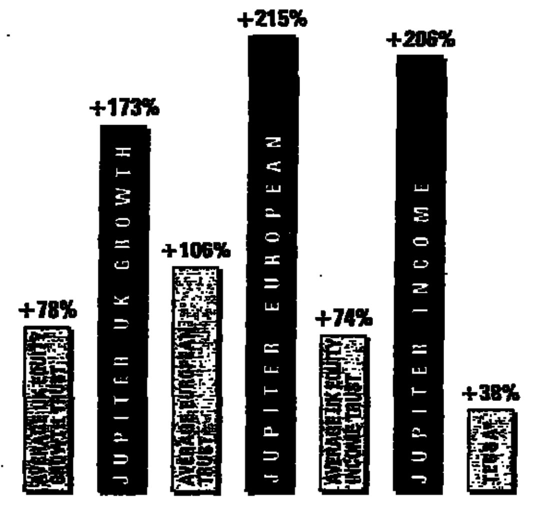

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Source Micropal. Offer to bid, net income reinvested, 5 years to 1.6.97
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PARAMOUNT PICTURES

Don Ameche got more than he bargained for when he took on Eddie Murphy as a manager in *Trading Places*

Helen Pridham says moving managers is not always plain sailing

Trade in your old plan for a new one

Personal equity plans should be long term investments but that does not mean you have to stay with one plan manager all the time. If your existing Peps are underperforming or your requirements have changed, you can transfer your existing investments to another manager without affecting the tax status of those plans or using up your current year's Pep allowance.

"Investors often do not realise that they can move their Peps between plan managers," said Jason Hollands of BESt Investment, the independent financial adviser, "but awareness is starting to grow." He recommends that people who have several Pep holdings should review their performance from time to time and check if the geographic spread is still appropriate. A transfer may be advisable.

Pep transfers are likely to become increasingly common in years to come as peoples' circumstances change said Hayden Green of The Pep Shop in Nottingham. "Investors who originally took out Peps for capital growth will want to switch into income funds as they reach retirement and this may well involve transfering to another manager with a better equity income or corporate-bond Pep " he said.

Transferring a Pep can be to an investor's advantage but it is seldom trouble-free. Although it does not actually involve the investor in much work — you just instruct the new manager who gets in touch with your previous provider to arrange the transfer — snags can arise:

■ **Time:** The transfer process can take longer than you expect. An efficient manager can release your investment within a week but financial advisers say the average is two to four weeks. However, it can take longer. Don Clark, of Pep-Direct in Wolverhampton, said "I have known of at least one transfer that took 10 weeks to complete." Fortunately, most of this time is taken up with the paperwork, the actual period for which your money is not invested as it passes from one manager to another is likely to be only four or five days.

Peter Ship, of the Pep Managers Association, said the problem is that managers losing business do not give transfers top priority, though most are not breaking any rules. "Revenue guidance notes state that a transfer should take place not more than 30 days after the investor's instructions are received by the manager." Time taken may be influenced by the Pep type. A unit trust simply needs to be sold and the proceeds passed on to the new manager. But if you have shares which you wish to transfer, this may take longer because the plan manager will have to re-register your shares via the company registrar. This can be used as an excuse, said Mr Ship.

Problems can arise over outstanding dividend tax credits. There is always a gap between dividends being paid and managers getting tax back from the Revenue. If a transfer takes place, the capital will usually be paid over and any outstanding tax credits paid later but some managers sit on the money until the credits arrive.

'I have known of at least one transfer that took 10 weeks'

■ **Bundling:** If you have invested several years of Pep allowances with one manager, you may find it impossible to disentangle them and transfer, say, just one year's worth to a new manager. This is because most leading Pep managers, including Credit Suisse, Gartmore, Perpetual, Save & Prosper and Schroder, "bundle" together the separate years into one plan.

They argue that this procedure is administratively more convenient for them and for clients as well since they receive details of all their Pep s on one statement. However, Fidelity which does not bundle its Peps, and points out that this has not stopped it providing consolidated statements.

One unit trust manager said that it did not really matter if plans were bundled anyway because investors seldom wanted to transfer just one year's allowance. "If investors are dissatisfied with you, they will generally transfer all their plans".

With general Peps, you can at least spread your capital across a range of funds or shares depending on what is offered by your Pep provider. Bundling of single-company Peps is more limiting. If you invest in the same company for years and your allowances are bundled into one plan, you may find yourself unable to diversify your investment in future. If you want something different you will have to invest the lot in another single replacement share. The Investment Ombudsman recently criticised the practice of bundling in his latest annual report saying that it had resulted in "an unnecessary restriction of consumer choice."

■ **Cost:** Some cost will usually be incurred in transfering from one Pep manager to another, though an improvement in performance could more than make up for this within a relatively short space of time. First of all, you may have to pay something to the manager you are leaving.

Some plans have exit fees if you transfer during the first three to five years. These include unit trust plans offered by Guinness Flight, M&G, Legal & General and Virgin Direct. Some other plan managers levy flat fees, Henderson, for example, has a £20 charge.

Even if you do not have to foot any bills on leaving, you will often be faced with paying your new Pep manager an initial charge which could be anything up to 6 per cent on a unit trust plan. So if you were transferring, say, three years' general Peps, the cost could amount to more than £1,000.

However, some managers reduce or even waive their initial charges for transfers. Perpetual and Credit Suisse, for example, take a reduced initial charge of 3 per cent on transfers instead of their usual 5.25 per cent. Fidelity will make no charge at all if investors transfer direct rather than through a financial adviser. Another way to reduce or eliminate the initial charge is to use a discount broker such as Pep-Direct or The Pep Shop which will rebate to you the commission they would normally receive on a transfer.

Single-company loophole may be stopped

A personal equity plan loophole that is almost certain to be closed in the next Budget is one concerning single-company plans. At the moment, due to a quirk in the rules, it is possible to invest the annual £3,000 single company allowance in a Dublin-listed company that is basically a tracker fund.

This can be an attractive option for investors who believe that putting £3,000 in the shares of one company is much too high a risk. Many investors fail to use up their annnual £3,000 limit for just this reason.

Jason Hollands, BESt Investment, said: "You can only really justify putting 10 per cent of your portfolio into one share, which means that only those with at least £30,000 of investments should take out a single-company plan." Mr Hollands expressed surpise that the Inland Revenue had not moved to close the loophole sooner. "It flies so obviously in the face of the spirit of the legislation that it is amazing that it has not already been stopped, but it can only be a matter of time," he said.

Many companies were considering launching plans to exploit the loophole, but have put their plans on hold after consultation with the Inland Revenue. Among the fund managers that do offer Dublin-listed schemes is HSBC. From June 26, the the HSBC Pep Plus VI will be available for transfers of up to £9,000. This particular five-year Pep will offer a minimum return of 120 per cent of the rise in the FT-SE 100 index. Mr Hollands believes that those who have not used up their annual single-company £3,000 allowance should consider investing through this plan.

Other companies that are offering similar types of schemes include Legal & General. Its plan offers 140 per cent of the gain in the FTSE 100 index or a return of the capital if the index falls over that period.

Johnson Fry is also offering a similer type of product. The performance of the Johnson Fry scheme is linked to the performance of the British, United States and Japanese stock markets.

Again this product guarantees to return at least the original investment at the end of five years.

CAROLINE MERRELL

هكذا من الأصل

Matthew Wall on the workings of a much-misunderstood Pep

Will Brown bring a rush to bonds?

The Treasury's pre-Budget musings about the possible abolition or reduction of the Dividend Tax Credit on Advance Corporation Tax has sent the stock market into a spin. If the threat materialises and yields on equities tumble, some see investors seeking sanctuary in bonds — good news for corporate-bond Peps.

But the problem with them is that their popularity is probably inversely proportional to the amount of people who understand them. Total corporate-bond Pep sales have topped £2.6 billion since they were launched in July 1995, with this April alone seeing sales of £293 million. They now account for more than 20 per cent of Pep sales.

Bonds, whether issued by companies or governments, provide a fixed rate of interest and a set capital sum on maturity. But the income from a bond fund can fluctuate, as managers buy and sell investments within it. And a corporate-bond Pep need not contain any corporate bonds at all, as convertibles and preference shares are eligible.

As bank and building society savings rates fell in the Nineties, risk-averse savers were forced to look elsewhere for better income. When corporate-bond Peps arrived they seemed to fit the bill, marketed as cheap, tax-free income providers offering twice what deposit accounts could, with little extra risk.

But there are widely varying levels of risk with different investment strategies. Virgin Direct, which launched its bond Pep in October 1995, prides itself on an extremely low-risk strategy based on a high proportion of gilts and low-risk corporate bonds from blue-chip companies such as Tesco, Glaxo and BT. Tony Wood, Virgin Direct's marketing director, said: "This Pep is most suitable for people looking to supplement retirement income in a tax efficient way. ner. What people in this position want is regular and reliable income with minimal capital risk. Our low-risk, passively-managed fund, has grown to £150 million in less than two years and has delivered a 7 to 8 per cent yield."

But Abtrust's bond Pep, managed by Paul Reed, head of fixed interest, is an entirely different animal. Nearly two thirds of the £186 million fund is in convertible bonds, so-called because they can be converted into shares later. The link to the equity market holds out the possibility of capital growth, but at greater risk. Mr Reed said: "I am not interested in gilts offering rates of about 7.25 per cent. The convertibles I go for yield at least 8.5 per cent. About a quarter of the fund is in corporate bonds. I accept our fund is riskier than others. It certainly won't suit those seeking a slightly higher yield than they get on their deposit account. I aim to deliver a high yield coupled with some capital appreciation."

This racier approach has certainly been more profitable. Despite a highish 1.25 per cent annual management charge and an initial 3.5 per cent charge, Abtrust's bond Pep has achieved an unbeaten 36.45 per cent total return since July 1995, assuming reinvested gross income.

There are other risks too. Ian Millward, of Chase de Vere, the Bath independent financial adviser, said: "Bond Peps are obviously not appropriate for people looking for growth. Rising interest rates mean that capital values might actually fall.'"

Investors need to shop around for a bond fund with an established track record. Initial charges range from 0 to 6 per cent and annual management charges range from 0.5 to 1.3 per cent. Investors should also and be aware that if charges come from capital rather than income, the income level may be higher but with greater threat of capital erosion. Jason Holland at Best Investment recommends the following bond Peps for investors who want low volatility of income and low capital risk:

- ■ Guinness Flight Value Bond Pep, no initial fee, 0.65 per cent annual, minimum investment £3,000 (current yield 7.06 per cent).
- ■ Barclays Unicorn Income Manager Pep, 3.25 per cent initial, 0.75 per cent annual, minimum investment £1,000 (current yield 7.50 per cent).
- ■ Virgin Direct Income Pep, no initial, 0.7 per cent annual, minimum investment £1,000 (current yield 7.41 per cent).

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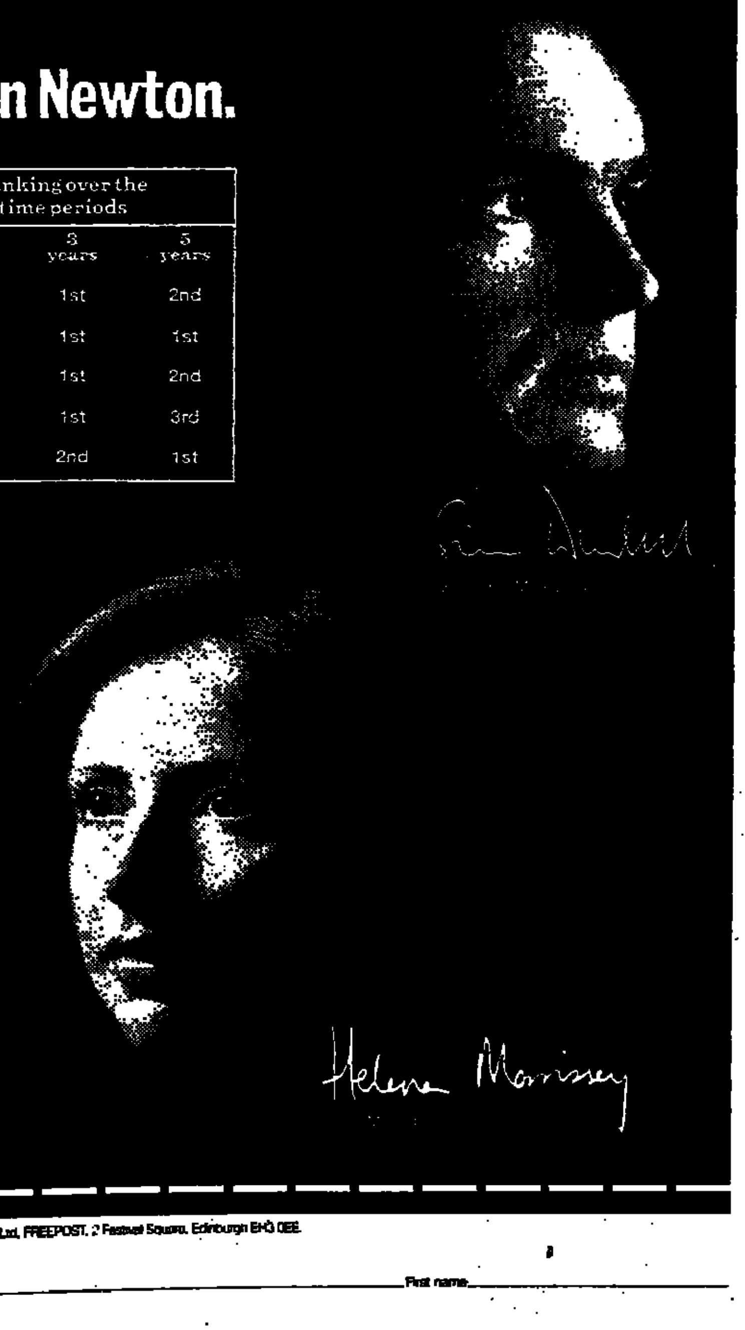

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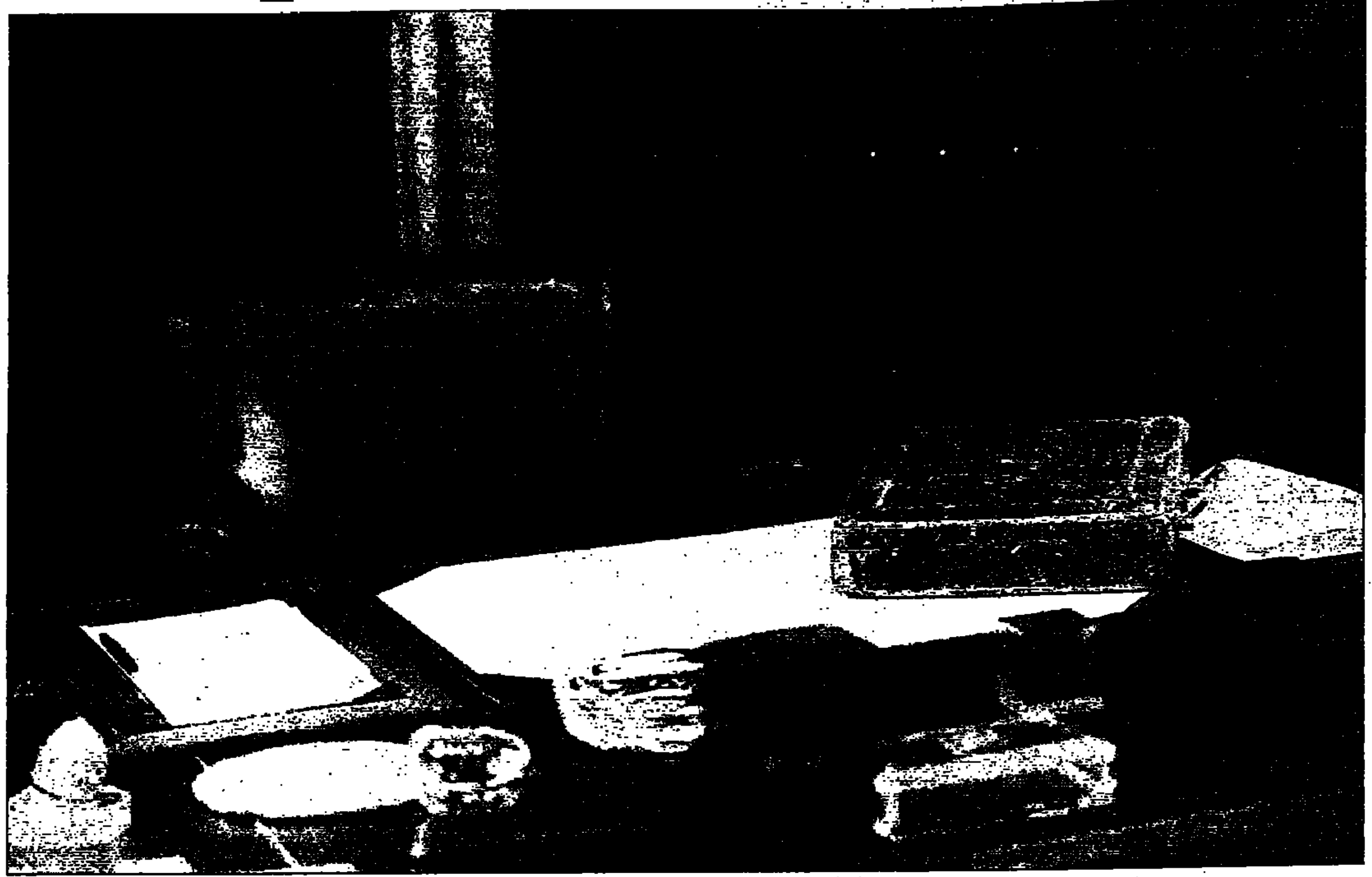
Marianne Curphey on fears Brown may pick on the perks

Peps in the firing line



MIKE POWELL

Peps were one of the investment successes of the Conservative administration, encouraging millions of people to invest in shares in British industry. However, the new Labour Government may decide in future to cap the amount of money that can be held in a Pep because it feels higher rate tax-payers with large holdings do not need extra incentives to invest. There are other concerns for the future of Peps.

The Pep management industry is particularly concerned that if the Chancellor changed the rules over dividend tax credits (see page 33), the tax advantages and popularity of Peps could be significantly diminished.

It worries that dividend tax credits are an easy target for a Government looking for new ways of raising revenue, since scrapping them completely could raise billions for the Exchequer. A 5 per cent decrease to 15 per cent is seen as more likely, raising some £2 billion.

Standard Life, the insurance group and one of the largest Pep providers, commented: "Peps would be hit hard because most people hold them not to avoid capital gains tax, but to enjoy tax-free dividends from shares."

Reducing or abolishing the dividend credit will mean that Peps are only bought by higher-rate taxpayers and those who will make a capital gain of more than £6,500 each year and want to avoid capital gains tax. There may be other side effects from the reduction or abolition of the dividend tax credit, including a fall in share values, making equity investment through Peps less attractive. Some have even predicted that equities could fall 20 per cent if the dividend credit was abolished. Pre-Budget worries have already hit UK stocks, with the FTSE 100 index tumbling this week.

The value of shares could fall again after the Budget if the Chancellor's new measures are regarded by the City as hostile to profits and anti-competitive.

Jason Hollands of BESt Investment, the Pep expert, said: "We believe this could be a radical Budget, and for that reason and because of the strength of the pound and the uncertainty over UK equities we would recommend investing at least part of your funds outside the UK.

"We particularly like those fund managers with a spread of funds into which customers can put differing amounts depending on their risk profile." BESt Investment recommends Perpetual, Gartmore, Credit Suisse and Guinness Flight as well-managed funds with the opportunity to buy into a number of other funds.

"The spread should be across the UK, US and Europe, with some exposure to the Far East and possibly Japan," Mr Hollands said. "Although for the last couple of years Japan has been a bit of a dog, analysts are starting to turn bullish again and there are compelling reasons to reconsider investing in the market. In the past, Japanese domestic investors have been cautious and placed great emphasis on the bond market. Now, however, a lot of large companies are introducing share-option schemes to employees which will expand and encourage share ownership."

For first-time Pep investors who want to buy before the Budget, Mr Hollands suggests putting a quarter of your Pep allocation for a general Pep (the maximum allowance is £6,000 a year) into Perpetual's Far Eastern Growth fund. He suggests a further quarter in Perpetual's UK Growth fund and half in its International Growth fund which has holdings in US, European and some UK companies. He also likes Gartmore, which has a European Select Opportunities Fund, a UK Smaller Companies fund and a wide range of funds for the £1,500 which the Pep rules allow in non-qualifying funds.

Mr Hollands said: "We do not believe that the Labour Government is hostile to the principle behind Peps. However, in the long term it is likely that tax allowances will be amalgamated into an individual savings account. Peps could be phased out gradually or have a fixed ending date, perhaps the end of the financial year next April."

Chase de-Vere, which offers independent advice on Peps, has a more bearish perspective on the Labour Government's plans.

"Peps came about as a direct result of the Tory party philosophy of popular capitalism. No government gives away money without a good reason, and, with over £6 billion invested in Peps over the last year, the loss of revenue to the Government is enormous," said Ian Millward, author of Chase de Vere's *Pep Guide*.

"The Labour Party is likely to continue to offer tax incentives, but its motivation will be different. One option would be to replace Peps with a far less flexible investment which commits investors' money for longer terms."

He likes funds managed by Perpetual, Credit Suisse and Prolific and believes a large number of investors still have a very UK-based portfolio and should start to diversify. He also likes the Schroder High Income Pep, which he describes as an aggressive investment that is "not for the faint-hearted".

European funds lead the way

European and smaller companies funds have been the star performers among peppable unit trusts, according to Chase de Vere's new *Pep Guide* for 1997.

Jupiter, one of the smaller fund managers, tops the chart and holds the first, second and sixth positions in the 20 top-performing unit trusts over five years. Its Income trust has turned £1,000 into £3,380 over the period, while its European fund has increased to £3,353. While UK stocks in the past 12 months have, in the words of Chase de Vere, "enjoyed a tremendous bull run". Europe has been quietly outperforming many other world indices.

Of the 20 top funds, more than half of them invest in European stocks, and both the third and fourth places are held by European funds — those of Old Mutual and Morgan Grenfell.

Smaller companies funds are also showing a healthy trend towards growth, with trusts managed by BWD Rensburg, Invesco and Britannia included among the top 20.

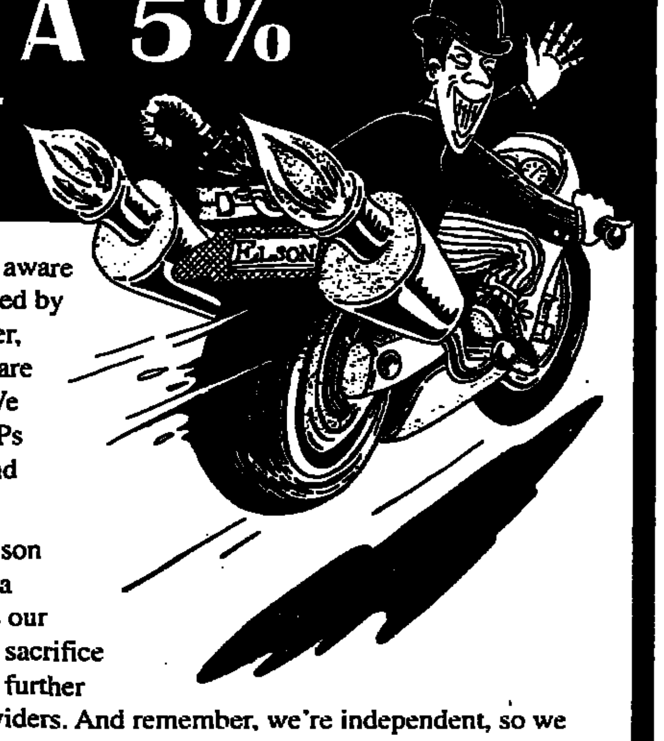
Ian Millward, author of the *Pep Guide*, says it is still not too late for investors to get a piece of the action in Europe. "There is no reason why European funds should not continue their excellent run, and they are still cheap enough to offer good value," he says.

A surprise inclusion in the top 20 is Morgan Grenfell's European Growth trust. Having recovered from the Peter Young scandal, it is now rated fourth by Chase de Vere. Among the investment trusts, Europe is again the star performer, although it is the riskier Foreign & Colonial Enterprise fund, which invests in unquoted UK companies, which claims the number one slot. It has turned £1,000 into £4,267 over five years, including gross income reinvested.

Close behind is Henderson TR's European Growth, Invesco's English & International. Jupiter's Primadona and European funds, and Gartmore's European investment trust.

Both Prolific and Henderson have technology unit trusts which have performed well over the past five years. However, because the bulk of technology stocks are in the United States these do not qualify for inclusion in a Pep.

MARIANNE CURPHEY



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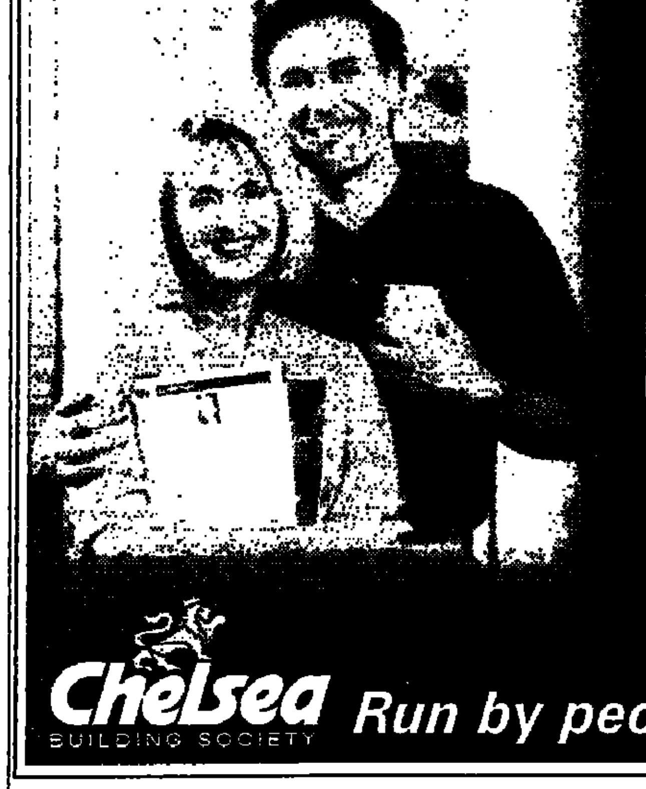

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Karen Zagor on the attractions of strippable gilts

Shirley Eaton showed off the natural allure of gilt in *Goldfinger*. Today many investors look to gilts as a solid, safe, long-term investment

Change in the tax treatment of gilts is causing confusion among private investors, although the reform was intended to make gilts more attractive to a wider number of individuals. The move, which takes effect this month, stems from reforms to make more stocks "strippable" — divisible into their capital and interest components and therefore more convenient for the needs of some holders.

All of the Treasury's new benchmark gilt issues will now be strippable. Ultimately, this will bring the proportion of strippable stock to 100 per cent from about 33 per cent today.

anet Field is among those who have contacted *The Times* to voice irritation at the changes. She is concerned that interest on an increasing number of gilts is now paid gross, before the deduction of tax. Like thousands of other investors who want a simple life, Mrs Field would prefer to have tax deducted at source, freeing her from having to pay the money herself to the Inland Revenue.

She said: "I have purchased gilts both through stockbrokers and through the National Savings Stock Register. I have always found those bought through the National Savings to be a nuisance, as the interest is paid gross and I have to have money at hand to pay the tax bill. Now I learn that the interest on other gilts will also be paid gross."

The Treasury says its decision to change the tax treatment was intended to give greater investor appeal. Some investors — mainly non-taxpayers, such as pensioners and children — are better off when their investment income is not taxed at source. Taxpayers also benefit from being able to invest for a longer period before tax is due.

There are also technical reasons for the change. In order to make the tax treatment of a strippable gilt equivalent to a reconstituted gilt (see definitions), the Treasury needed to make gross interest payments on the interest or "coupons" on strippable gilts. "The gilts needed to be neutral in the tax treatment so there would be not an incentive to strip or not to strip, otherwise the market doesn't work," said one observer.

The Treasury hopes the changes will encourage more people to buy gilts, helping to reduce yields and save taxpayers' money. The Treasury will lose money through timing — because taxpayers will not be taxed at source, there will be a delay before the Treasury receives tax on the gilts — but it hopes improved sales will more than compensate. In addition, taxpayers should be prepared to pay more for a better cashflow.

An IOU with a difference

After Labour's electoral victory, prices of gilt-edged stock soared, partly because of a widespread belief that giving the Bank of England control over interest rate policy is the best way of keeping inflation in check. Although gilt prices have now come off their May highs, the expectation of a reasonable inflation climate remains.

Low inflation is good for gilt holders because gilts are fixed-income investments. Any investment with a fixed income is vulnerable to inflation, which erodes its value. At the moment, gilts also have more attractive yields than their European counterparts. As Britain moves closer to Europe, gilt rates may be reduced to align them more closely with European bonds.

Q **What exactly are gilt-edged stocks?**

A Governments almost always spend more than they raise through taxation. Gilts, or British Government Bonds, are essentially IOUs issued by the Government to raise money. In America they are called US Treasury bonds. Instead of borrowing from the bank, the Government borrows directly from investors.

Q **So how do these bonds work in practice?**

A Each gilt has a fixed life and a fixed repayment or redemption price at the end of that period. Annual interest — called the coupon or dividend — is also fixed at the time of issue. Gilts are generally broken into different groups, depending on their length.

Short-dated gilts, or shorts, which have five years or less to run. Mediums have between five and 15 years, and longs have more than 15 years. There are also less conventional gilts such as the undated, with no final repayment date, and index-linked, where interest payments and redemption values are linked to inflation.

Q **If the repayment price and dividend are fixed, why do prices and yields vary?**

A Gilts are traded, so investors buy them at their market price, not their redemption price. As a result, the actual yield on your investment will fluctuate with the market. A good rule of thumb to remember is that when gilt prices go up their yields go down, and vice versa.

Q **So how is the yield on each stock calculated?**

A The yield is calculated in two ways. The first, called the flat or current yield, is the easiest to measure but the less accurate measurement. It is a measurement of the gilt's coupon as a percentage of its price. The second, the redemption or yield-to-maturity, is the return you would get every year if you held the gilt to maturity. It is a more complicated calculation which incorporates the price you buy at and the amount you will get when the gilt is repaid.

Q **How does a stripped gilt work?**

A Stripping is the process of breaking out a coupon bond into its constituent parts: interest and principal payments. For example, if you were to strip a 15-year bond with two interest payments a year you would get 30 separate coupon payments and one payment of principal.

Q **Are gilts a really safe investment?**

A Since the Government tends to be the most creditworthy institution of all, gilts are about the safest investment there is.

Q **But are gilts a good investment right now?**

A Like most decisions, the answer will depend partly on whether you think interest rates are going to rise dramatically. It will also depend on whether you want to hold the gilt to maturity or trade on a shorter-term basis. Holders of longer-dated bonds can lose quite substantially if they buy just before rates rise much. On the other hand, short-term traders might buy when they think rates are about to fall because the yield on the bond they want to sell will seem higher if rates fall.

Q **What are the disadvantages of gilts?**

A Gilts do not have the potential to produce the spectacular returns of equity-based investments. Nor do they have the tax advantages of equities when held in a personal equity plan. Gilts are good investments for people who need a steady income, but generally not much use for capital growth.

KAREN ZAGOR

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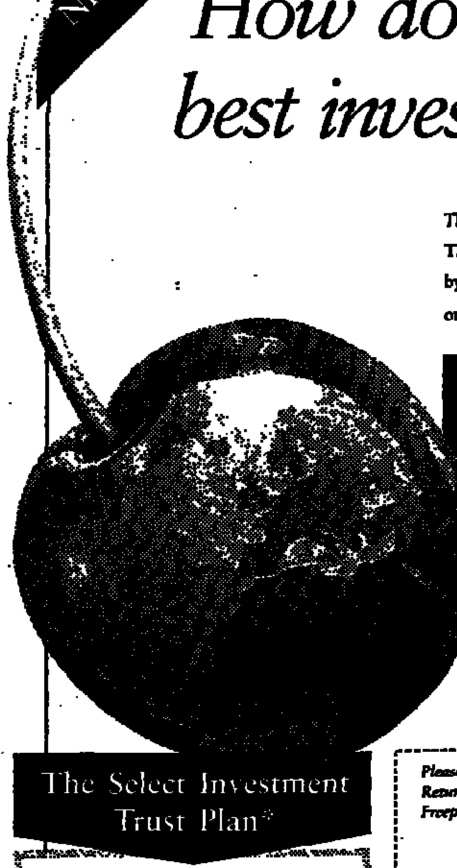

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THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Sainsbury's rate looks hard to beat

The competition to capture the business of diligent savers intensified this week, with Sainsbury's Bank sweetening the terms of its already competitive rates. Savers with less than £1,000 to deposit, who need easy access to their money, will have a hard time beating the new rate of 6.15 per cent brought in yesterday.

The rate is flat, regardless of how much you have in your account, which is good news for savers who regularly deplete and replenish their accounts. The minimum balance is £1 and a cashcard is available with the account.

Although the Sainsbury's rate is not the best on the market for those with more money to deposit, it is better than that offered by many of the bigger building societies. Alliance & Leicester is keen to promote its Platinum Plus 90-day notice account, which it says "still offers rates which cannot be beaten by the top ten building societies". Yet the Alliance & Leicester account is far from competitive when compared with the best rates listed in *MoneyFacts*.

For deposits of £2,500 to £4,999, Alliance & Leicester pays only 4.85 per cent, rising to 6.15 per cent for accounts with £5,000 to £9,999, and 6.20 per cent for deposits in the £10,000 to £24,999 range.

In contrast, Cheltenham & Gloucester is offering a flat rate of 6.25 per cent on deposits of £1,000 and higher in its Instant Transfer account. The telephone-operated account works in tandem with a saver's ordinary bank account.

Abbey National's Bonus postal account offers attractive rates, provided your balance does not fall below £2,000. Rates start at 6.75 per cent for amounts up to £9,999, but the rates include a bonus of 1.99 per cent for not allowing the balance to drop below the minimum.

Alliance & Leicester's first class instant postal account fares better than its notice account when compared with competitors. The account pays 6.85 per cent on balances of £10,000 and higher. However, only three withdrawals are allowed per year.

For savers with at least £2,500 to deposit, First National Building Society's 90-day notice account has rates starting at 6.45 per cent on deposits up to £4,999, rising in tiers to 7 per cent on balances of £50,000 and higher.

KAREN ZAGOR

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sainsbury's Bank 0500 405060	Inst Access	Instant	£1	6.15	Yly
Coventry BS 0345 665522	First Inst Post	Postal	£2,000	6.15	Yly
Abbey National 0800 174635	Bonus Postal	Postal	£2,000	6.75D	Qly
Alliance & Leic BS 0800 412214	First Cls Inst	Postal	£10,000	6.85	Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Leeds & Holbeck BS 0500 225777	Albion 30	30 day p	£10,000	6.65	Yly
Leopold Joseph 0171 5882323	40 Day Notice	40 day	£10,000	6.71	Yly
Coventry BS 0345 665522	Postal 50	50 day p	£2,000	6.35	Yly
First National BS 0800 558844	90 Day Notice	90 day p	£10,000	6.75	Yly

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	Fxd+feeder a/c	5 year	£8,575	7.55	F/Yly
Investec Bank (UK) 0171 203 1650	Premier+feeder	5 year	£9,000	7.35	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	7.15	Yly
Bradford & Bingley BS 01274 555332		5 year	£500	7.00	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Capital One Bank 0800 669000	Visa	0.64%N	7.90%N	Nil
RBS Advanta 0800 077770	Visa	0.79%N	9.90%N	Nil
Co-operative Bank 0800 109000	Advantage Visa	0.87%C	10.90%	Nil

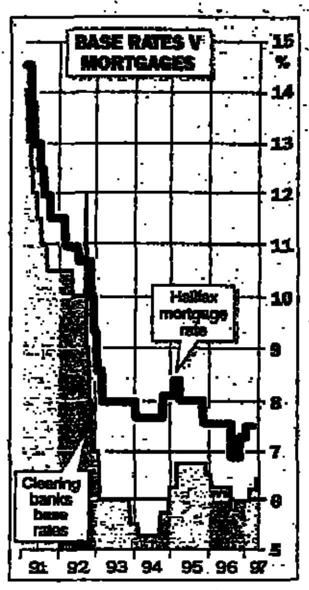
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

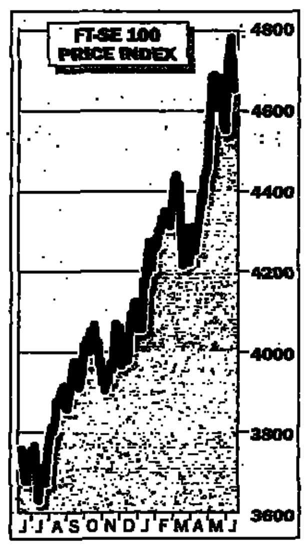
PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Northern Rock BS 0345 421421	11.90%H	£112.82	£102.49
Direct Line 0181 680 9966	13.90%A	£112.07	£101.33
RBS Direct 0800 121125	14.00%	£114.95	£101.45

Nb. A = Minimum age 22 years. Holders of comprehensive motor insurance policy or lender's existing customers, B = Withdrawals via Bank Clearing System, C = no interest free period, D = Rate includes bonus, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), H = Higher rate applies if insurance not arranged, N = introductory rate for a limited period, P = By Post only

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)





NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Cont
Ordinary A/c¹	1.50	1.20	0.90	10-10,000**		0645 [illegible]5000
Investment A/c*₂	4.75	3.80	2.85	20-500**⁷	1mth	0645 [illegible]5000
Income Bond* ₃	6.00	4.80	3.60	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 [illegible]5000
First Opt Bond₄	6.25	5.00	3.75	1,000-20,000**		0645 [illegible]5000
44th Issue Cert†₂ ₃	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 [illegible]5000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 [illegible]5000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 [illegible]5000
Capital Bond₃ ₆	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 [illegible]5000
10th Index Lnkd†₃	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 [illegible]5000
Pensnrs Bond S3 ₆	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000₅	60day	0645 [illegible]5000

¹ first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ² Unlimited additional [illegible] for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ₃Guaranteed when held fo[illegible] years ₄0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ ⁵£100,000 jt in addition to S1 and S2 holdings ⁶Taxable but cred in full ⁷£500-100,000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply.

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5-years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Generali ....Level		£ 9,551	£10,594	£1[illegible]952
Sun Lf of Can.......Level		£ 9,508	£10,557	£1[illegible]887
Standard Lf..........Level		£ 9,404	£10,496	£1[illegible]900
Norwich Un..........Level		£ 9,468	£10,476	£1[illegible]816
Equitable Lf.........Level		£ 9,534	£10,462	£1[illegible]575

SINGLE LIFE	Female:	Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential ....Level		£8,865	£ 9,673	£1[illegible]060
Generali ....Level		£8,856	£ 9,516	£1[illegible]704
Norwich Un ....Level		£8,750	£ 9,513	£1[illegible]084
Sun Lf of Can.......Level		£8,761	£ 9,510	£1[illegible]007
Canada Life ....Level		£8,653	£ 9,471	£1[illegible]065

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Female:	Age 60 Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Norwich Un ....Level		£8,567	£9,097	£ 9[illegible]61
Sun Lf of Can.......Level		£8,379	£8,962	£ 9[illegible]89
Generali ....Level		£8,325	£8,959	£ 9[illegible]29
Stalwart ....Level		£8,243	£8,938	£ 9[illegible]22
Prudential ....Level		£8,386	£8,921	£ 9[illegible]43

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393)

Statistics compiled by Lizanne Rose

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at June 19, 1997

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	5,000	GE Fin Assur	6.00
	10,000	AIG Life	6.05
	20,000	AIG Life	6.20
	50,000	AIG Life	6.30
2 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.40
	10,000	Hambro Assured	6.20
	20,000	Hambro Assured	6.30
	50,000	Hambro Assured	6.35
3 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	5.55
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.30
	20,000	GE Fin Assur	6.33
	50,000	GE Fin Assur	6.43
4 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.00
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.35
5 Years			
	1,000	Hambro Assured	6.00
	3,000	ITT London & Ed	6.60

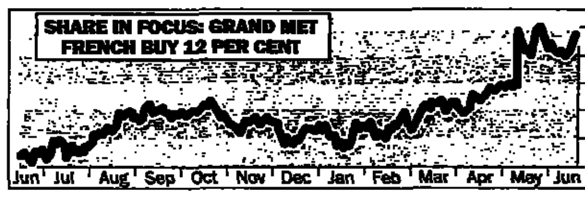
Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	113.47	8.237	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	138.43	8.398	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	154.72	8.402	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	160.10	8.354	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	154.72	8.402	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	148.73	8.101	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	139.09	8.448	100.25	10,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	159.16	8.404	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	128.42	8.343	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	151.17	8.352	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	152.07	8.302	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	152.88	8.422	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (30/09-27/03)	9.04063%	115.00	100.00	1,000
First Nat(22/09-20/03)	9.12031%	104.00	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source: ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Chelsea 01242 271271	4.85	No max	80	2.75% disc to 1.8.99
Northern Rock 0800 591500	4.69	to £100k	90	Fixed to 1.7.99
Nationwide 0800 302010	4.75	£150-300k	90	Disc of 2.6% for 1 year
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.77% disc-6 mth 3% disc-6 mths
Midland 0800 494999	4.35	£100k+	80	3% discount for 1 year

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0990 133149	0.25	£30-100k	95	6.99% dsc-6 mth 2%-6mth,0.5%-1y
Nottingham Imper. 0115 9817220	0.75	£25-150k	75	Fixed at 0.75% to 31.1.98
Staffordshire 0800 216121	1.49	to £200k	80	6% dsc-1.9.98, 2.90%dsc-1.9.99
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.77%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Alliance & Leic 0800 412214	4.95	£30-150k	95	3% discount to 1.7.98

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Derbyshire 01332 841000	4.20	to £250k	95	3.15% discoun for 1 year
Newbury 01635 43676	4.35	£15-100k	95	3% discount fo 1 year
Mansfield 01248 202055	1.35	£25-250k	90	6% discount-6 th Further dsc ap
Banks				
Bnk of Ireland 01189 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.77% disc 6 mts 3% disc 6 mths
Abbey National 01908 343400	4.89	to £125k	75	Fixed to 31.5.9

Larger lenders, loans and first-time buyers tables by Blay's Guides Ltd (01753 88048

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UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE
Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH12 9SE
0131 339 9191

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Balanced	561.30	594.00	- 6.00	...
UK Equity	751.00	794.80	-14.70	...
Property	432.20	457.40	- 0.50	..
Fixed Interest	367.50	388.90	- 1.70	...
Money	275.10	291.30	+ 0.20	..
International	471.90	499.40	+ 1.00	...

ABBEY LIFE
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth
BH8 8AL
01202 292373

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Custodian S4	208.70	219.70	- 0.10	...
Ethical S4	169.80	178.80	- 2.50	..
International S4	237.20	249.70	+ 2.20	..
Protected Gth S4	128.60	135.40	...	0.00
Asian Pacific	221.90	233.60	+ 4.60	..
European S4	252.70	266.10	+ 1.60	...
Prop Fd Ser 4	419.40	441.50	- 0.20	...
Equity Ser 4	294.20	309.70	- 5.30	...
Man Ser 4	843.70	888.20	- 1.70	...
Conv Ser 4	361.50	380.60	+ 0.30	.
Money Ser 4	361.10	380.20	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	413.40	435.20	- 2.30	
American Ser 4	769.50	810.10	+ 5.70	...
High Inc Ser 4	905.60	953.30	-17.80	..
Indexed Inv Ser 4	233.40	245.70	- 1.40	...
Japan Ser 4	320.80	337.70	- 3.10	..

ALBANY LIFE
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ
01707 42311

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Fd Acc	2099.20	2209.70	-46.60	.
European Fd Acc	550.90	579.80	- 0.30	
Fixed Int Acc	592.20	623.30	- 1.20	..
Gtd Money Acc	367.90	387.10	+ 0.20	...
Intl Managed Acc	810.40	853.00	- 3.30	..
Int Fxd Int Acc	372.10	391.70	- 0.30	..
Japan Fund	268.30	282.40	+ 2.50	...
N American Acc	471.50	496.20	+ 0.20	.
Prop Fd Acc	493.70	519.60	+ 0.50	.
Multiple Inv Acc	1317.90	1387.30	-14.10	.

ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE
Swindon SN1 1EL
01793 514514

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Fxd Int Dep Acc	413.30	435.10	- 0.20	.
Equity Acc	1895.00	1994.80	-29.00	.
Property Acc	691.00	727.40	+ 0.50	.
Far East Acc	349.70	367.10	+ 7.30	
Managed Capital	[illegible]	[illegible]	- 7.00	
-do- Acc	1428.30	1503.50	-14.80	.
Overseas Acc	1327.80	1397.70	-31.10	
Gilt Edged Acc	582.20	612.70	- 2.70	..
Amer Equity Acc	1251.80	[illegible]	+ 6.30	
Amer Man Acc	[illegible]	558.80	+ 3.20	.
Amer Prop Acc	117.40	123.60	- 0.20	.
Distribution Bonds	26.50	27.90	- 0.40	

AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks
01494 463463

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Reserve Ser 6	183.10	192.70	- 0.40	.
Balcd Ser 6	940.80	990.30	-10.90	
Opportunity Ser 6	218.00	229.40	- 2.60	..
Distribution Ser 6	109.10	114.20	- 1.10	5.40
UK Equities Ser 6	1295.50	1363.90	-30.90	.
Higher Inc Ser 6	1405.00	1478.90	-32.90	..
North Amer Ser 6	666.10	701.10	+11.70	
Far East Ser 6	600.20	631.70	+ 3.20	.
Europe Ser 6	552.70	581.70	+ 1.40	...
Intnl Ser 6	740.50	779.40	+ 2.00	.
Property Ser 6	619.40	651.90	+ 0.10	..
Fixed Int Ser 6	511.20	538.10	- 2.20	..
Ind-Lnkd Sec Ser 6	203.90	214.60	- 0.60	.
Gteed Dep Ser 6	129.10	136.40	+ 0.40	...

BARCLAYS LIFE
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB
0181 534 5544

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Equity Acc	1191.30	1254.10	-27.90	.
-do- Initial	720.90	758.90	-16.80	...
Gilt Edged Acc	467.20	[illegible]	- 2.40	...
-do- Initial	282.80	297.70	- 1.50	
International Acc	499.40	525.70	+ 1.10	...
-do- Initial	302.90	318.90	+ 0.70	
Managed Acc	691.30	727.70	- 8.20	...
-do- Initial	420.90	443.00	- 4.80	..
Money Acc	320.90	337.80	+ 0.10	...
Property Acc	330.60	349.00	+ 0.40	.
-do- Initial	200.20	210.80	.	...
America Acc	447.60	471.20	+ 4.70	.
Far East Gwth	281.00	295.90	+ 7.10	
Financial Acc	533.70	561.80	-14.90	
500 Accum	528.30	556.20	- 5.80	..
Japan Acc	256.00	269.50	+ 3.20	...
Income Acc	689.40	725.70	-13.50	...
Leisure Acc	327.40	346.80	- 5.40	
Special Sits Acc	168.90	177.80	- 4.50	...
Unly Tech Acc	205.00	215.90	- 0.40	..

BLACK HORSE LIFE
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF
01634 834000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
The Managed Fd	1038.94	[illegible]	- 8.01	...
Income Fund	1001.17	1052.82	-17.88	.
Extra Income	[illegible]	842.28	-15.28	...
Worldwide Gth	602.75	634.48	+ 2.51	...
Balanced Fund	885.43	932.04	-16.95	...
Small Cos Recvy	1081.43	1138.35	- 8.59	.
N Amer & Gen	528.17	555.97	+ 7.14	
Pacific Bsn In	424.75	447.11	+ 8.02	...
German Growth	301.67	317.55	+ 0.75	.
Japan Growth	171.65	180.69	+ 0.31	.
The UK Gth Fd	287.47	302.60	- 5.41	
Contl Euro Gth	189.22	199.13	+ 1.76	...
Property Fund	438.34	461.42	+ 0.57	
Fixed Interest	386.00	406.32	- 2.76	...
Cash Fund	311.92	328.34	+ 0.25	.
[illegible]	618.14	650.68	- 5.10	.
Nth Amer Recov	331.31	348.75	+ 0.90	...
[illegible] Fund				
Managed Gth	565.18	594.93	- 0.42	.

BRITANNIA
50 Bothwell St, Glasgow G2 6HR
0141 248 2000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Perf	259.10	272.80	- 0.50	.
Performance Plus	251.70	266.80	+ 4.30	
With Profit Perf	196.10	205.30	+ 0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	282.10	298.40	- 3.80	...
Euro Opportunity	309.30	327.30	+ 2.80	...
North Amer Opp	270.00	285.70	+ 2.00	...
Far East Opp	227.00	240.20	+ 3.30	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	184.00	193.70	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	216.90	229.50	...	...
Fixed Int	239.70	253.60	- 1.20	...
Cash	174.60	184.60	+ 0.20	6.49
Overseas	290.10	307.00	+ 5.00	.
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	461.00	485.30	- 1.10	..
UK Equity	853.30	898.30	- 8.30	..
Property	299.40	315.20	...	...
Money Market	276.60	291.20	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	348.20	366.60	- 1.70	...
Japan	335.00	352.70	- 1.90	...
North America	240.30	253.00	+ 1.80	...
International	448.30	471.90	+ 7.60	...
European	395.60	416.50	+ 3.50	...
Far East	168.10	177.01	+ 2.40	...

CANADA LIFE
24 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA
01707 51122

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	425.50	447.90	- 4.30	
Property	283.60	298.60	- 0.50	..
Gilt & Fxd Int	281.50	296.40	- 1.90	...
Equity	513.00	540.10	- 8.60	..
Cash	235.50	247.90	+ 0.20	.
CLife Euro Mgd	503.80	530.40	- 0.50	
CLife Intl Fd	413.80	435.60	+ 1.10	...
Managed Fund	908.50	956.30	- 9.00	.
Property Fund	574.30	604.50	+ 0.60	..
Equity Fund	1266.10	1332.70	-21.20	..
Gilt Edged Fd	726.40	764.60	- 4.60	..
Deposit Fund	364.00	383.60	+ 0.30	
Investment Fd	567.50	[illegible]	-10.90	..
International	658.60	693.30	+ 1.90	.

CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd,
Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Property Fund	178.80	188.30	.	...
Managed Fund	829.90	872.60	-24.70	.
Equity Fund	[illegible]	521.90	- 9.60	

CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	371.30	390.90	- 2.00	...
Ruby	214.90	226.20	- 0.40	...
Emerald	164.20	172.90	- 0.40	...
Equity	441.60	464.90	- 9.00	...
Property	246.00	259.00	+ 0.30	.
Gilt & Fixed Int	242.10	254.90	- 1.10	...
Indexed Secs	187.30	197.20	- 0.70	.
Cash	205.50	216.40	+ 0.20	.
Nth American	339.10	357.00	+ 1.20	..
Far East	322.00	339.00	+ 1.60	..
International	303.80	319.80	+ 2.50	..
Special Sits	471.80	496.70	- 0.60	..
Intl Income	399.60	420.70	- 6.10	..
European	477.60	502.90	+10.70	
Japanese	127.70	134.50	- 0.20	.
SE Asia	426.60	449.10	+ 8.50	.
With Profits Reg	192.60	202.90	+ 0.20	.
-do- Spec	[illegible]	[illegible]	+ 0.20	.
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	442.50	465.80	- 5.10	.
Equity	565.30	595.10	-12.70	..
Property	232.50	244.80	+ 0.10	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	317.10	333.80	- 1.50	..
Index Linked	200.50	211.10	- 1.00	.
Cash	265.30	279.30	+ 0.40	.
Nth American	428.70	451.30	+ 0.10	..
Far East Acc	333.90	351.50	+ 2.50	
International Acc	385.10	405.30	+ 1.40	.
Special Sits	729.80	768.30	- 1.30	..
European Flex	692.00	729.50	+ 4.30	

COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime,
Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
(Units) Key !	264.06	.	..	..
-do- Pacemaker !	408.27	.	..	..
-do- Cash	222.20	233.90	+ 0.15	..
-do- Equity	729.43	767.82	-16.21	...
-do- Fxd Int	426.90	449.41	- 1.91	..
-do- Managed	517.30	544.59	- 5.92	.
-do- Property	376.58	396.40	- 2.86	.
(Pens) Cash Cap	216.74	228.16	+ 0.09	.
-do- Cash Inv	346.85	365.12	+ 0.29	..
-do- Equity Cap	1924.31	2025.60	-35.56	.
-do- Equity Inv	3079.45	3241.54	-54.69	.
-do- Fixed Cap	457.88	481.91	- 2.76	.
-do- Fixed Inv	732.74	771.32	- 3.90	.
-do- Index Cap	212.93	224.15	- 1.24	.
-do- Index Inv	340.76	358.71	- 1.73	..
-do- Mngd Cap	754.39	794.11	-12.17	.
-do- Mngd Inv	1207.25	1270.80	-18.60	...

COMMERCIAL UNION
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Var Ann Acc (5) !	1060.40	..	- 9.14	..
Var Ann (5) !	118.96	..	- 0.90	
Prime Managed	518.60	545.90	- 4.50	...
Prime UK Equity	671.20	706.60	-12.10	
Prime Int Equity	368.70	388.20	+ 2.40	.
Prime Property	259.70	273.40	+ 0.40	..
Prime Fxd Int	270.90	285.20	- 0.90	..
Prime Index-Lnk	[illegible]	199.30	- 0.60	
Prime Cash	226.40	238.40	+ 0.20	

CONFEDERATION LIFE
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN
01438 744940

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed Fund	1421.40	1496.20	+14.00	..
Equity II	2124.50	2236.30	+18.10	

For Crown see Windsor

EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE
Montpellier Drive, Cheltenham, GL53 7LQ.
01242 221311

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Life Funds				
Ut With Pfts (Ster) !	114.50	.	+ [illegible]	.
Secure (2) !	109.40	.	+ 0.10	.
Managed (2) !	123.70	.	- 1.40	.
Equity Mngd (2) !	126.60		- 1.50	
Adventurous (2) !	[illegible]	.	+ 0.10	.
Bristol & West (2) !	110.70	...	+ 0.10	...
Equity Mgd S1	306.90	323.10	- 4.00	...
Managed S1	305.30	321.40	- 3.60	...
Adventurous S1	248.70	261.80	+ 0.20	...
Managed (2)	206.20	217.10	- 2.30	...
Eagle/Mid Uts	398.50	412.90	-12.00	0.01
Pension Funds				
Unit With Pfts (5) !	114.10	...	+ 0.10	...
Secure (2) !	109.70	...	+ 0.10	...
Managed (2) !	124.00	...	- 1.60	...
Equity Mngd (2) !	125.80	...	- 1.80	...
Adventurous (2) !	119.40	...	+ 0.20	...
Bristol & West (2) !	117.10	...	+ 0.20	...

FRIENDS' PROVIDENT
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH
01722 413366

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Managed	407.10	428.60	- 4.50	...
UK Equity	559.30	588.80	-12.40	...
Stewardship	478.20	503.40	- 5.30	...
Overseas Equity	381.40	401.50	- 0.50	..
North American	231.80	244.00	+ 1.10	..
Pacific Basin	190.90	201.00	+ 2.70	...
European	367.00	386.40	+ 1.70	...
Property	190.70	200.80	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	283.30	298.30	- 0.70	...
Index Linked	189.60	199.60	- 1.20	...
Cash	221.60	233.30	+ 0.10	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	627.00	660.00	- 3.40	..
Managed	909.80	957.60	- 9.50	.
Deposit	379.00	398.90	+ 0.30	...
Property	524.80	552.40	+ 0.80	...
American	641.00	674.70	+ 3.20	...
Australian	717.50	755.20	- 5.70	...
European	859.90	905.10	+ 2.60	...
Income Acc	990.30	1042.40	-25.60	..
-do- Dist	533.90	562.00	-17.40	4.42
International	399.60	420.60	- 0.60	..
Japan Smaller	396.70	417.50	- 1.40	...
Singapore & Mal	447.20	470.70	+10.40	..
Smaller Cos	567.50	597.30	-16.00	..
Tokyo Fund	629.70	662.80	- 2.80	..
UK Equity	779.00	820.00	-17.40	..
CCM Sango Mg	963.00	1013.60	- 6.40	..

GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond
EC2Y 5AS 0171 710 4567

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
GT Plan Far East	239.80	252.20	+13.40	.
GT Plan Wwide	591.90	623.10	- 1.50	.

GAN LIFE & PENSIONS
Gan House, Harlow, Essex
CM20 2EW. 01279 626262

هكذا من الاصل

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Greenwich should ask its members

From Mr James Kelly

Sir, I would like to register my protest at the hasty sell-out of Greenwich Building Society members' interests.

There have been no discussion or consultation with members and no evidence of approval by professional advisers for the terms in the merger documents.

The price being paid to Greenwich members is very poor. It amounts to 50 per cent of Greenwich reserves. Converting building societies are valued at approximately double their reserves.

The basis of distribution is unfair. In a one-member one-vote situation, the bonuses should be distributed on a flat-rate basis or on a flat minimum plus percentage of investment. A Greenwich voting member with £100 will get £5, one with four £50,000 accounts will get £10,000. Unfortunately, the Greenwich members have nobody to look after their interests as the directors have unanimously supported the proposals.

While it is the board's policy to support mutuality, it is high-handed of the directors to think that members have the same ideological commitment. After all, when Halifax, Woolwich and other society members were given the chance, they all voted with 95 per cent majorities to opt for higher cash or share windfalls. Why not give Greenwich members a choice?

There is no need for a rushed deal. The Greenwich is in sound financial shape, with a higher gross capital ratio than the Portman. The Greenwich profit figure as a percentage of reserves is quoted in the merger document as 4.78 per cent. This misleading figure relates to an eight-month period. The annualised figure is 7.17 per cent.

The Greenwich may be too small to convert, but there are plenty of potential bidders for small and large building societies.

Members of Cheltenham & Gloucester, National & Provincial and Bristol & West all voted overwhelmingly to accept takeover offers.

Mr Nichols, do the decent thing. Tell us if you have had any approaches and announce that if more favourable offers are received, these will be put before members.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES KELLY,
Church Lane,
Newcastle,
Co Wicklow,
Irish Republic.

Astonished by Prudential policy

From Ms G. M. Cumpstey

Sir, I was astonished to read that the direct sales staff at the Prudential are to get free share options if they successfully complete a retraining programme (Pru staff get free share to retrain, June 7).

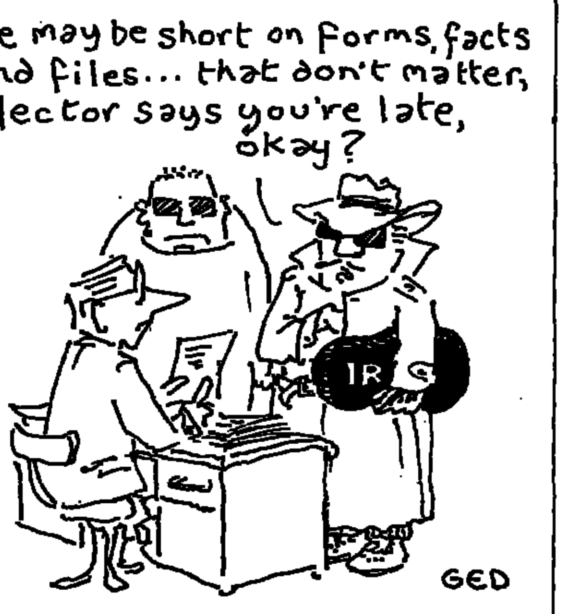
I have a Prudential Savings Account. At the time of purchasing I was interested in a Tessa but accepted the salesman' advice that the Prudential Savings Account was a better option. My problem is that I have no idea if this product was really the best option.

Since the leak of the draft report by the SIB I have searched the press for information about this account. I have had no contact from the Prudential, nor have I seen notice of any helpline. I now have only anxieties about this particular investment. The policy documents state that it is advisable to leave the money invested for ten years. As the Prudential salesman indicated to me that the drawback of a Tessa was that the money was locked up for five years, I do not feel confident now to seek further advice from him.

Since the Prudential is prepared to look after their sales staff with retraining and share options, perhaps it is time it gave some consideration to its policyholders.

Yours faithfully,
GRAINNE CUMPSTEY,
Cedar Lodge,
Allington,
Chippenham,
Wiltshire.

Still waiting for Hector


We may be short on forms, facts and files... that don't matter, Hector says you're late, okay?
IR
GED

From Mr Richard Fisher

Sir, I wonder whether Hector will be as prepared to penalise himself for his own shortcomings as he is to penalise the rest of us for ours (Weekend Money Comment, June 7).

Although on PAYE, I have to complete a tax return every year as I also have investments for which I submit a composite tax return prepared by my broker. This year, having not received my usual form from the Inland Revenue, I inquired why and was subjected to an extraordinary cross-examination as to why I thought I needed one. I pointed out that they had only to refer to my file to see why, and I was finally told, rather grudgingly, that the matter would be "looked into".

I heard nothing more so, having been in touch with their customer services department last year about another matter, I phoned that department again. They were far more helpful and having made inquiries phoned to tell me that I would be sent a return, and apologised for the fact that I had not been contacted to tell me so. But they then apologised further, being forced to admit that there would be yet more delay as they had actually run out of tax return forms. I am still waiting [for a form].

Just how well prepared for the new system is the Inland Revenue, let alone the rest of the population? And will I be allowed a late return in view of the fact that the Inland Revenue were not able to supply me with a tax return?

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD FISHER,
1 Middle Lane, N8.

CGT ALLOWANCES — MAY 1997

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in May 1997

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
January	-	0.899	0.807	0.720	0.630	0.569	0.519	0.414
February	-	0.891	0.799	0.707	0.624	0.563	0.513	0.403
March	0.975	0.888	0.794	0.691	0.622	0.560	0.507	0.397
April	0.936	0.862	0.770	0.655	0.606	0.541	0.483	0.373
May	0.922	0.854	0.763	0.648	0.604	0.540	0.477	0.364
June	0.917	0.849	0.759	0.644	0.604	0.540	0.472	0.360
July	0.916	0.839	0.761	0.648	0.609	0.541	0.470	0.358
August	0.916	0.831	0.745	0.643	0.604	0.537	0.454	0.355
September	0.917	0.823	0.741	0.644	0.596	0.532	0.447	0.346
October	0.907	0.817	0.730	0.641	0.594	0.525	0.433	0.335
November	0.898	0.810	0.725	0.636	0.580	0.517	0.426	0.324
December	0.902	0.806	0.727	0.634	0.575	0.519	0.422	0.321
	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
January	0.313	0.205	0.157	0.138	0.110	0.075	0.045	0.016
February	0.305	0.199	0.151	0.130	0.104	0.068	0.040	0.012
March	0.292	0.194	0.148	0.126	0.101	0.064	0.036	0.010
April	0.254	0.179	0.130	0.116	0.088	0.053	0.028	0.004
May	0.243	0.175	0.126	0.112	0.084	0.049	0.026	
June	0.238	0.170	0.126	0.113	0.084	0.047	0.025	
July	0.237	0.173	0.130	0.115	0.090	0.052	0.030	
August	0.225	0.170	0.130	0.110	0.084	0.047	0.025	
September	0.213	0.166	0.126	0.106	0.082	0.042	0.020	
October	0.204	0.161	0.122	0.106	0.081	0.047	0.020	
November	0.207	0.157	0.123	0.108	0.080	0.047	0.019	
December	0.208	0.156	0.127	0.106	0.075	0.041	0.016	

The month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 when the expenditure was incurred before that month

THE WEEK IN MONEY

- TAX experts predict that self-assessment, the new tax system affecting 8.5 million people, will deliver a windfall bonus of at least £150 million to the Inland Revenue because of fines levied for late payment and non-compliance.

- ABOUT 1.8 million Norwich Union with-profit policyholders each received a minimum £1,000 payout in the latest demutualisation windfall bonanza on Monday. Applications for new shares in the insurance group had been scaled down after the issue was heavily oversubscribed, ensuring instant profits.

- ABBEY NATIONAL has confirmed that it is poised to buy Cater Allen, the financial services group. The negotiations could lead to a deal valuing Cater Allen at up to £200 million and would be part of a broad shift away from traditional savings and mortgages operations at Abbey National.

- MIKE BLACKBURN, chief executive of the Halifax, is to be the new president of the Chartered Institute of Bankers (CIB), the banking industry association. The appointment underlines the former building society's raised status on the high street.

- THE West Bromwich Building Society saw its profits rise £4.8 million, to £21.3 million, in the year to March 31. The society restated its commitment to mutuality.

- BANKS, building societies and insurance companies stand accused of charging customers an extra £8 billion a year because of their administrative inefficiencies and out-of-date technology.

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£25,000-£49,999	6.00%
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Direct Line Standard Variable Mortgage Rate	
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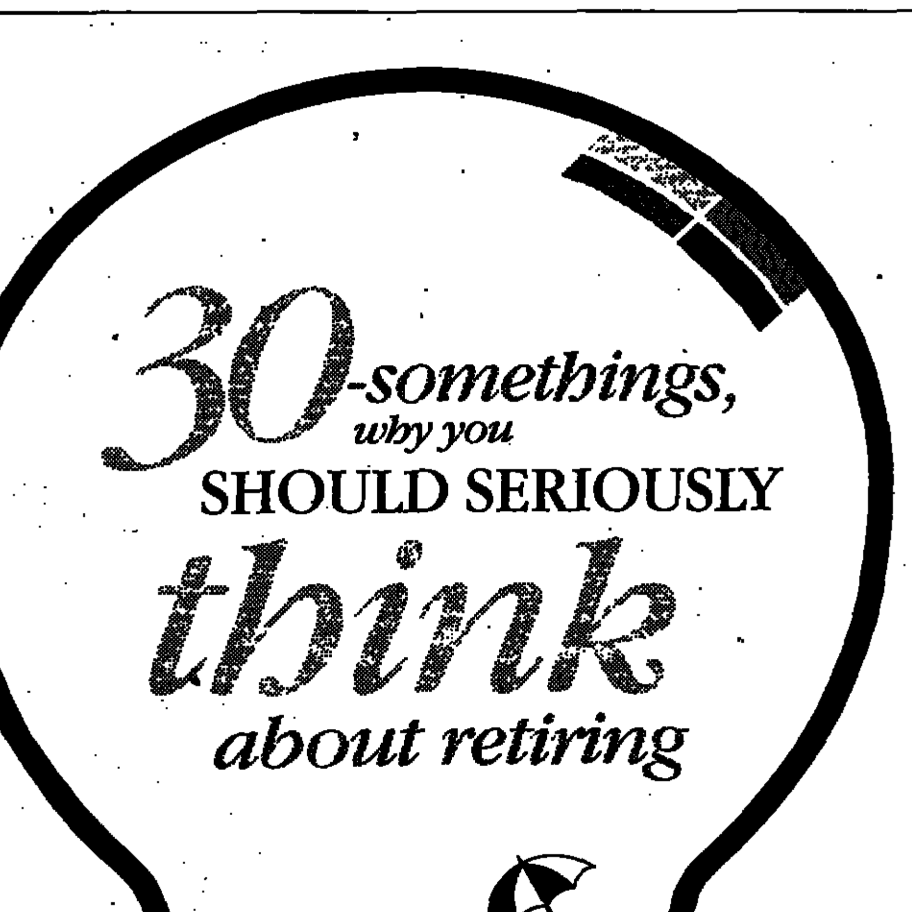
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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
For AIB see Govett (John)				
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	788.70	817.80	−19.20	2.32
General Inc	638.80	677.50	−16.00	2.32
UK Growth Acc	533.00	567.10	−13.40	2.27
UK Growth Inc	340.80	362.60	− 8.60	2.27
Higher Inc Acc	932.40	989.80	−25.70	3.88
Higher Inc Inc	488.00	519.70	−13.60	3.88
Gilt/Fxd Int Acc	220.70	232.50	− 1.10	5.49
Gilt/Fxd Int Inc	94.01	99.29	− 0.48	5.49
Nth America	405.80	431.80	+ 7.70	..
Europe	426.00	453.20	+ 1.30	0.05
Brit Excell	104.60	111.20	− 2.80	2.45
Brit Fndmtls Acc	129.60	137.90	− 2.80	4.59
Brit Fndmtls Inc	85.45	90.91	− 1.89	4.59
Global Opps	115.20	122.60	− 0.20	...
Balanced Acc	70.33	74.82	− 0.47	2.12
Balanced Inc	65.00	69.15	− 0.38	2.72
Japan Acc	44.19	47.02	− 0.36	.
Pac Basin Acc	411.50	437.80	+ 7.80	0.70
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	133.90	142.10†	− 1.00	6.46
High Inc Equity	203.80	218.00	− 4.90	4.45
Worldwide Bond	268.50	284.80†	− 2.30	3.99
American Growth	474.10	508.80	+ 8.50	0.33
Asian Pacific	345.90	369.90	+ 8.00	0.37
Assets & Earnings	323.20	345.70†	− 6.40	2.70
Euro Capital Acc	226.80	242.60	+ 2.30	0.82
Extra Inc	43.36	46.13†	− 0.66	8.52
General	297.60	316.60	− 6.60	2.90
Global Opps	80.76	85.92	+ 0.19	0.47
Japan	105.50	112.80	− 1.40	
Managed Inc	50.56	53.79†	− 0.80	4.18
Mastertrust	187.70	200.70	− 1.50	1.11
US Emerging Cos	191.10	204.40	+ 5.30	.
Ethical	84.68	90.86†	− 1.88	2.03
International	151.10	160.70	+ 0.70	0.54
Dividend & Growth	75.76	80.60	− 1.86	4.17
Global Gwth & Soc	76.51	81.50	− 0.07	2.48
Latin America	92.83	98.76	+ 1.14	0.39
Capital Reserve	149.30	149.40	.	4.68
ABBEY NATIONAL UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0141 275 8500				
N&P UK Growth	103.30	109.80	− 2.60	2.06
Equity Income	144.90	154.10	− 3.50	3.92
Extra Income	280.10	297.90	− 8.10	6.09
Smaller Cos	107.30	114.10	− 1.40	1.58
International	128.00	136.10	− 0.70	1.32
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2454.00	2559.00		.
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	72.53	75.43	+ 0.63	.
Emerging Mkts	81.23	84.59	− 0.36	0.11
European	167.77	174.37	− 1.63	
Extra Income #	53.12	55.90†	− 1.45	5.48
Far East Emg Eco	130.34	136.71	+ 0.01	0.60
Fixed Interest #	26.60	27.68†	− 0.27	8.71
Fund Inv Tst #	172.37	180.88	− 4.14	8.58
Japan	183.13	190.26	− 2.14	.
Latin American	78.62	82.28	+ 0.86	1.71
Pacific	83.75	87.91	− 0.28	0.30
Property Share	83.18	87.30	− 2.33	1.85
UK Emerging Cos	70.39	75.86	− 0.77	1.47
UK Growth	62.46	65.07	− 1.63	1.87
Abn World Port #	88.92	93.58†	− 1.41	2.55
Ethical	83.94	87.29†	− 1.54	1.15
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.21	50.21†	− 0.17	7.01
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 256 5888				
Brazil Property #	101.90	108.40	+ 0.40	5.24
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	100.56	106.69	− 1.29	1.98
Income Builder Inc	86.89	92.44†	− 1.67	3.92
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	321.70	343.80	−10.50	2.93
Capital	563.10	601.90	−17.50	1.04
Balanced	932.60	996.90†	−32.10	2.45
Accumulator	1811.00	1935.00	−65.00	1.81
Income Trusts				
American Income	75.54	80.520	− 0.41	2.02
High Income	520.90	556.60	−17.10	3.83
Equity Income	294.80	315.10	− 9.80	3.52
High Yield	313.20	334.80	−10.20	3.78
Govt Securities	35.45	37.430	− 0.27	5.55
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	255.70	272.50	+ 1.00	0.04
European Growth	66.46	70.910	+ 0.58	0.06
International	210.50	224.80†	− 0.20	0.10
Japan	193.30	206.60†	− 0.70	
Pacific	429.10	458.70†	+ 7.60	
Secs of America	694.90	739.60†	+ 1.00	0.11
Wwide Asset Val	60.74	64.930	− 0.31	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	721.60	771.30†	−26.30	1.77
Conv & Gilt	54.60	58.360	− 1.51	3.63
Smaller Cos	205.90	220.10	− 3.50	1.04
2nd Smaller Cos	195.10	208.50	− 3.50	0.75
Recovery	184.10	196.80	− 6.30	1.22
Met Min & Cdty	154.40	165.00	− 5.80	0.19
Oseas Earnings	479.20	512.30	−14.80	0.95
Technology	347.80	284.80†	+ 2.90	
UK Special Sits	642.30	686.60	−20.10	1.56
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cotsold Ocl Pens	134.30	139.50	+ 3.40	.
Foundtn Pensl Pens	79.35	82.44	+ 1.55	
For BSI-Thornhill see Thornhill				
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	407.40	433.40	+ 3.70	.
Bond	122.80	129.20	− 1.00	6.46
Brit Smlr Cos	113.20	120.40	− 1.10	1.84
Conv & Gen #	66.82	71.09†	− 2.18	5.41
Europe	343.40	364.30	+ 4.50	0.10
Euro Smlr Cos	129.40	137.80	− 0.80	0.31
Income Gwth	391.20	416.20†	− 6.70	4.53
Japan	329.80	350.10	− 0.30	
Latin American	115.78	123.10†	+ 0.80	0.52
Pacific	126.60	134.70	+ 5.90	0.49
UK Smlr Cos	58.93	62.68	− 0.34	1.27
Japan Fd	639.10	657.90	+ 3.70	...
Mngd Fd	228.40	242.50	− 1.80	2.55
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Bril & Oseas	431.30	456.20	+ 3.20	0.77
Capital Gwth	148.70	157.30	− 2.00	2.65
Wwide Opps	252.90	267.50	+ 1.50	0.82
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Gwth & Inc Inc	477.60	508.00	−15.20	1.96
European Bd Inc	102.00	103.70		5.68
Exempt	94.56	100.80	− 2.80	2.46
500	505.00	543.10	− 7.10	2.12
General	366.30	389.60	−10.90	2.06
Property	258.40	277.20†	− 1.00	5.45
Trustee	258.40	274.90†	−10.40	2.03
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	101.00	101.00	+ 0.10	5.80
Distribution #	119.20	119.80†	− 2.30	5.56
Extra Income #	155.10	165.50	− 4.10	4.44
Gilt & Fxd Int	60.39	62.26†	− 0.39	7.53
Income #	659.70	703.70	−15.50	4.38
Income Builder #	75.54	80.45	− 1.63	5
Intl Income	80.91	86.07†	− 1.48	1.34
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	162.00	172.40	− 4.50	1.93
FTSE 100	118.40	125.70†	− 3.80	2.25
Leisure	183.20	195.40	− 3.20	1.58
Recovery	559.90	597.30	−17.80	2.09
Smlr Cos Inc	59.90	63.89	− 0.70	2.28
Special Sits	461.40	490.80	−14.70	1.95
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	216.20	229.80†	+ 2.50	0.20
F East Gwth Acc	324.40	345.10	+10.20	0.32
Far East Gwth	192.10	204.40†	+ 6.00	0.32
Euro Gwth Inc	223.80	236.60	− 0.30	0.56
-do- Accum	243.20	257.40	− 0.20	0.56
Japan	131.40	139.80	− 1.60	
-do- Accum	132.90	141.20	− 1.60	
Japan Spec Sits	62.67	66.39	− 0.90	.
Worldwide	222.80	236.50	− 0.50	0.67
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	167.70	177.10	+ 2.60	
Amer Smllr Cos	155.30	165.30	+ 2.00	
Eastern	305.30	329.30	+ 9.50	0.30
Equity Income #	112.10	119.60	− 2.70	4.20
European Growth	431.60	458.40	+ 1.50	0.80
Europe	420.10	447.50†	− 1.20	0.80
German Growth	105.80	111.90	− 0.80	0.50
Global Bond	72.28	76.02	− 0.56	6.70
Global Growth	164.70	174.70	+ 1.60	0.40
Japan Growth	187.50	198.90	− 1.70	
Japan Sunrise	129.30	136.90	+ 1.50	
Korea Trust	55.88	60.86	− 1.08	
Portfolio	163.20	173.80	− 2.20	2.00
-do- Accum	311.10	331.40	− 4.20	2.00
UK Growth	120.00	128.80†	− 4.60	3.00
UK Smaller Cos	104.90	113.80	− 0.80	1.90
Select Managers	95.41	102.20	− 0.70	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Acc	106.40	113.20	− 0.30	
Special Opps Inc	71.87	76.46	− 0.33	
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	164.72	171.59	− 4.90	1.32
-do- Accum	192.77	200.81	− 5.74	1.32
Smaller Cos	172.76	179.96†	− 1.29	0.37
Higher Yield #	62.65	65.26	− 2.35	3.92
American Gth Inc	119.66	124.64	+ 0.95	
European Growth	192.85	200.89	+ 1.70	
-do- Accum	198.97	205.18	+ 1.74	
Mngd Ptflio Inc	60.51	63.03	+ 0.13	1.25
-do- Accum	63.11	65.74	+ 0.13	1.25
Intl Spec Opps	191.04	199.00	+ 3.56	
Pacific Grth	166.63	173.57	+ 7.13	
UK General #	111.41	116.05†	− 1.45	2.85
-do- Accum #	122.69	127.80	− 1.61	2.85
Japan	54.35	56.62	− 0.46	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	103.16	106.90†	− 0.74	7.84
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	64.68	66.52	− 0.28	6.41
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Environ	198.50	209.00†	− 1.80	1.91
UK Growth	241.80	254.60	− 7.60	2.08
UK Income	164.20	172.90	− 5.20	4.13
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 622 100				
Can Gen Dist	260.90	276.50	− 5.20	1.43
-do- Income Dist	139.90	148.30	− 3.00	3.37
-do- Accum	465.50	493.40	−10.00	3.37
Gilt & Fxd Int	42.06	44.19	− 0.70	6.16
Growth Units	291.60	311.20	− 7.30	1.88
Bond	181.80	191.20	− 0.50	6.40
Intl Growth	259.30	276.10	+ 0.40	0.16
North American	307.60	326.70	+ 2.30	0.08
Far East	318.50	340.60†	+ 4.40	0.57
UK Smaller Cos	242.30	259.00†	− 2.00	1.19
European	110.10	116.90†	− 0.20	0.43
Japanese Growth	42.45	44.97	− 0.68	
High Income	247.00	263.90	− 5.40	3.85
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7495				
American & Gen	253.30	269.10	− 0.30	
European Inc	114.20	121.00	− 0.90	0.32
Smaller Cos (4-11)	111.90	119.10	− 2.10	1.52
Growth	620.40	660.00	−12.10	1.90
Income & Growth #	520.10	553.30	−14.10	3.51
-do- Accum #	797.30	848.20	−21.60	3.51
Japan & Gen	63.72	67.51	+ 0.24	
Hallmark Gwth	1377.00	1435.00	−23.00	1.61
-do- Accum	1714.00	1766.00	−30.00	1.61
Special Sits	142.90	152.00	− 2.50	1.90
High Yield	1661.00	1713.00†	−43.00	3.91
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	111.22	118.58	− 1.31	2.05
American Portfolio	147.21	158.24†	+ 1.59	0.91
European Portfolio	155.05	164.68	− 1.84	0.42
High Income	53.52	53.65	− 0.23	7.01
Japanese Portfolio	63.97	67.86†	− 0.79	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Pacific Portfolio	164.42	176.80†	+ 3.06	0.75
UK Equity	106.57	113.71	− 1.93	2.90
UK Equity & Bd	62.03	65.71	− 1.02	5.31
UK Smlr Cos	53.07	56.77	− 0.63	1.65
CBF CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fd Inc	870.79	883.95	+12.64	3.91
Inv Fd Acc	881.99	895.31	+12.80	...
Fxd Int Sec Inc	158.44	160.08	+ 0.83	8.93
Fxd Int Sec Acc	162.07	163.73	+ 0.86	.
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	861.05	874.07	− 5.36	3.96
Investment Acc	4061.18	4122.56	−25.62	...
Fixed Int Inc	131.16	131.88	− 0.01	8.81
Fixed Int Acc	249.49	250.49	− 0.03	..
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Buckmin Intl	88.98	93.80	+ 1.06	5.34
Buck Bio-Tech	40.73	44.11†	+ 0.17	.
Acorn Ethical Tst	204.10	214.32†	+ 4.62	0.45
City Fin Assets	85.30	89.57	+ 0.30	1.85
City Fin Intl	95.17	99.94	− 0.09	0.06
Friars Hse Cap	338.97	360.81	+ 9.51	2.21
Buckley Wld Gth	150.42	158.44	+ 1.55	
J Sld Inc/Gth Inc	62.63	65.77	..	3.25
Shaw Utilities	87.80	69.22†	− 1.63	5.03
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	62.27	66.07	− 0.07	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	92.22	98.11	+ 0.51	..
Dragon Growth	75.52	80.77	+ 2.00	0.25
Equity High Inc	102.72	108.88†	− 2.57	3.55
-do- Accum	152.16	161.01	− 3.81	3.55
Extra Income Inc	27.89	29.15	− 0.13	6.79
Extra Income Acc	31.36	33.01	− 0.15	6.79
European Gwth	77.31	81.81	+ 0.48	0.11
Evergreen	33.36	35.67	− 0.24	..
General Equity	120.85	127.55	− 2.94	2.56
Japan Growth	45.34	48.23	− 0.11	..
Pedigree Gwth	71.89	75.88	− 1.60	2.01
Ped Sm Cos Inc	39.54	41.84	− 0.42	1.34
-do- Accum	42.35	44.81	− 0.45	1.34
Retirement Inc #	31.27	33.27	− 0.66	5.60
Special Sits	51.93	55.84	− 1.13	2.68
UK & Overseas	69.99	73.01	+ 0.12	0.55
COLONIAL UNIT TRUSTS (UK) LTD				
01634 888 000				
Balanced	77.13	80.34	− 1.54	3.85
Capital	93.19	97.07	− 2.01	2.27
High Income	53.95	58.19†	− 0.36	6.58
Top 50	65.83	68.57	− 1.52	2.35
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	207.16	215.81	− 3.87	4.47
Long Gilt	46.38	48.29	− 0.33	5.81
Monthly Inc Plus	53.25	55.47	− 0.75	8.08
Preference Share	50.73	52.85	− 0.74	7.38
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	151.21	157.53	− 5.49	5.69
Managed Fund	83.61	87.10	− 0.52	2.60
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	52.74	54.94	− 0.93	1.55
-do- Accum	63.07	65.70	− 1.12	1.55
UK & General	110.43	115.04	− 2.55	2.44
-do- Accum	146.39	152.51	− 3.37	2.44
UK Growth	219.56	228.73	− 5.15	1.72
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	252.03	262.55	+ 1.06	0.51
Far Eastern Gth	139.56	145.39	+ 2.56	0.02
Global Bond	73.83	76.91	− 0.56	6.66
Japan Growth	109.96	114.55	− 0.14	.
North Amer Grth	288.68	300.74	+ 0.59	
Oriental Growth	88.56	92.26	+ 2.47	0.25
Worldwide Growth	81.62	85.03	− 0.09	..
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.36	92.36	+ 0.08	5.70
Homemaker Fund	100.56	105.99	− 1.55	2.62
Quilter Fund	171.77	182.75	− 3.93	1.97
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	39.03	40.60	− 0.69	3.89
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 368				
Growth	194.80	207.20	− 1.00	1.60
Income	78.52	83.53	− 2.67	4.22
European	88.51	94.16	+ 1.00	0.21
Recovery	187.20	199.20	− 0.50	2.38
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	1131.90	1150.00	+28.90	3.03
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	114.90	122.20	− 2.10	1.11
Income #	305.40	325.99	− 7.20	4.22
-do- Accum #	833.40	886.50	−19.50	4.22
Smaller Cos	228.80	243.40†	− 4.60	0.98
-do- Accum	285.90	304.10	− 5.00	0.98
Gilt Portfolio	108.60	115.50	− 2.10	1.24
High Inc Port #	90.61	96.39	− 1.88	4.33
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Global Sm Cos	1809.80	1831.30	+10.30	..
UK Small Cos	2253.20	2345.20	−14.70	2.93
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	239.20	245.60†	− 2.20	3.14
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	193.30	205.60†	− 5.60	1.57
UK High Inc Inc	201.90	214.70†	− 6.20	3.51
-do- Accum	281.40	299.30†	− 8.50	3.51
UK Pref & F I Inc	60.77	64.53†	− 0.47	5.73
Envrnmntl Opps	113.60	120.80	− 3.50	1.61
UK Smlr Cos #	73.35	78.03	− 0.91	0.86
Extra Income Inc	52.45	55.76	− 0.34	6.09
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 080 526				
Convertibles #	23.40	24.86†	− 0.57	5.63
Enterprise	117.60	124.70†	..	2.00
Equity Income #	154.40	164.10†	− 5.20	3.90
European	73.28	77.57	+ 0.43	.
Financial	66.43	70.58	− 1.42	1.42
Growth & Inc #	316.70	336.50	−10.80	2.60
High Dist #	195.10	207.30†	− 5.70	4.10
International	465.90	495.10	− 1.30	0.20
Intl Cap Inc	119.30	127.40	− 8.50	2.12
Latin American	41.03	43.59	+ 0.26	..
Pacific	88.08	93.59	+ 2.60	
Pref High Inc	23.63	25.11	− 0.32	7.17
Tokyo	209.10	221.00	− 1.00	.
UK Smaller Cos	252.60	268.40†	− 4.70	1.12
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
Japan Sm Cos	365.00	386.70	+10.20	
Nth Amer	502.70	532.60	+ 0.20	0.55
UK Inc & Gth	281.70	300.30	− 9.00	2.47
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
Brit Director Dlgs	128.21	137.12	− 0.24	0.94
Growth Acc	306.90	326.94		0.59
Income	615.42	655.72	+ 2.77	6.06
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	251.60	267.70	+ 1.20	1.04
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	105.79	112.41†	+ 0.48	1.49
Ethical Tst	52.71	55.48	− 0.08	0.74
Far Eastern	318.21	334.96	+ 1.96	1.49
High Income	154.72	162.86†	− 5.20	4.57
UK Index Tracking	60.02	63.18	− 2.42	2.88
Intl Growth	155.20	163.37	− 0.93	1.00
North American	176.00	185.28	− 0.23	1.08
Pelican	162.32	170.86	− 5.97	2.81
Smaller Cos	71.17	74.92†	− 1.44	2.52
Special Sits	96.56	101.64	− 1.29	2.86
Tst of Inv Tsts	237.32	249.81	− 2.55	1.30
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	113.87	120.82	− 1.38	
Fd of Inv Tsts	57.47	60.38	− 0.59	0.47
High Income #	41.27	43.76	− 1.04	11.42
Wtn & Gl Oppc	50.85	54.68	− 0.59	
Zero Preference	47.13	50.01†	+ 0.16	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 700				
Family Asset Tst	107.70	114.50	− 3.20	2.21
United Charities	337.20	358.70	− 7.80	1.45
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		5.00
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	26.68	27.66	− 0.20	5.28
Strategic Inc	28.40	29.69†	− 0.35	5.72
Income Funds				
High Income	28.84	30.29†	− 0.36	5.09
Income Plus	149.30	158.80†	− 3.00	3.77
European Income	58.29	61.98	− 0.03	2.19
UK Ors Gth	35.83	38.10	− 0.78	2.19
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	56.16	59.91	− 0.56	
American	377.40	401.00	− 0.40	
Amer Spec Sits	211.20	224.60	+ 5.20	
Japan Smaller Cos	27.58	29.33	+ 0.14	
European	272.00	289.30	+ 1.80	0.47
European Opps	99.99	106.40	+ 0.80	0.53
Global Pro	36.86	39.20	− 0.16	0.42
UK Growth	138.30	147.10	− 1.70	1.33
Growth & Inc	204.70	217.70	− 4.50	2.19
Intl PEP	55.95	59.49†	− 0.45	0.92
Japan Spec Sits	81.07	85.84	− 0.14	
Japan	180.00	191.00	− 0.50	
Managed Intl	416.70	442.50	+ 1.80	0.61
Moneybuilder	73.07	77.70	− 0.07	
Recovery	66.55	70.77	− 0.98	1.53
South E Asia	201.40	214.60	+ 4.80	0.90
Special Sits	807.70	858.90	− 1.60	0.51
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	119.65	119.65	+ 0.11	6.00
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	162.60	167.80	.	1.65
Finsbury Pfl Inc #	103.20	104.00†	− 1.10	6.35
Cap Ptfolio	186.20	187.80	− 0.60	0.09
General Opps	156.10	157.40	− 2.10	3.17
Growth Inc	42.72	43.12†	− 0.88	1.71
Private Portfolio	536.10	542.30	− 5.80	1.14
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 366 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smllr Cos	170.30	181.00	− 0.70	
High Income	23.54	25.01	− 0.33	9.02
Japan Smlr Cos	17.07	18.30	+ 0.62	
US Smaller Cos	478.00	509.70	+ 2.60	
For Foster & Braithwaite see Quilter				
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	87.79	93.15	+ 0.52	
-do- Accum	87.79	93.15	+ 0.52	
Amer Smllr Cos	700.50	747.70	+ 4.40	
-do- Accum	715.70	763.80	+ 4.40	
Capital Tst	405.30	431.20	− 8.70	1.26
-do- Accum	598.00	636.00	−12.80	1.26
Conti Smllr Cos	63.60	67.67†	− 1.03	0.97
-do- Accum	68.28	72.87†	− 1.10	0.97
Convertible	140.90	149.90†	− 5.70	5.17
-do- Accum	319.20	339.60†	− 5.20	5.17
Emerging Markets	79.13	82.47	+ 2.23	0.54
-do- Accum	80.75	84.13	+ 2.25	0.54
European	175.90	186.30†	+ 1.00	0.50
-do- Accum	187.00	198.10†	+ 1.20	0.50
Extra Income	428.00	455.30	−12.30	4.02
-do- Accum	690.10	734.10	−19.50	4.02
Financial	210.40	223.90	− 0.40	0.94
-do- Accum	225.40	239.80	− 0.40	0.94
Gilt Trust	63.37	65.34	− 0.13	7.64
-do- Accum	101.60	104.70	− 0.20	7.64
Health Fund Inc	270.00	288.50†	− 1.30	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	270.00	288.50†	− 1.30	..
Income & Growth	248.10	283.50†	− 7.70	4.08
-do- Accum	405.80	431.80†	−11.70	4.08
Intl Growth	464.50	494.50	+ 1.30	..
-do- Accum	515.80	549.10	+ 1.40	..
Japan & Gen	163.10	173.10	− 0.60	...
-do- Accum	164.80	174.90	− 0.50	.
Monthly Inc #	217.30	231.20†	− 4.80	4.26
-do- Accum #	222.90	237.10†	− 5.00	4.26
Managed Port Inc	129.00	135.80	− 3.50	1.32
-do- Accum	141.90	149.40	− 3.70	1.32
Charity Income #	59.98	64.16†	− 1.44	5.07
-do- Accum #	70.85	75.79†	− 1.71	5.07
Recovery	355.30	380.00	− 2.10	...
-do- Accum	419.40	448.60	− 2.50	..
UK Growth	72.60	77.23†	− 2.27	1.79
-do- Accum	80.20	85.32†	− 2.51	1.79
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715695 Enq 01722 715694				
FP American	74.84	79.78	+ 0.61	
FP Am Smllr Cos	214.10	228.30†	+ 0.80	...
FP Asian Growth	297.50	317.30	+ 8.80	..
FP Australian	472.80	503.40	+ 4.40	.
FP Equity Dist	511.70	545.80†	−15.20	2.09
-do- Accum	1156.00	1231.00	−34.00	2.09
FP Euro Gth	354.10	377.70	+ 1.30	..
-do- Accum	388.00	413.80	+ 1.40	
FP Intl Bond	56.34	58.61	− 0.29	4.06
FP Intl Gth Dist	43.12	45.99	− 0.09	..
-do- Accum	83.34	87.56	− 0.12	.
FP Pac Basin Acc	233.50	249.00	+ 4.00	.
FP Income #	64.18	68.45†	− 2.12	4.51
-do- Accum #	233.30	248.70	− 7.70	4.51
FP Jap Smllr Cos	256.10	273.10	− 0.90	...
FP Monthly Dist #	80.82	88.20†	− 1.69	4.87
FP Stlg Deposit	100.90	100.90	+ 0.18	5.14
FP Tokyo	78.74	83.98	− 0.45	.
FP UK Focus	48.12	51.32	− 1.40	1.51
FP UK Growth	227.60	242.70	− 6.50	1.73
-do- Accum	463.00	493.80	−13.20	1.73
Stewardship Dist	457.50	488.00†	− 8.80	1.26
-do- Accum	582.00	620.80	− 8.70	1.26
Stwdship Inc Dist #	79.16	84.43†	− 1.16	4.78
-do- Accum #	111.80	119.20	− 1.80	4.78
N Am Stship Dist	151.50	161.50	+ 2.30	0.01
-do- Accum	163.00	173.80	+ 2.50	0.01
FP Exempt Trust				
Inst Ethical In #	114.10	114.80†	− 2.90	2.90
Inst Ethical Ac #	115.30	115.80	− 3.00	2.90
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	142.40	151.40†	− 0.30	0.56
Open Cap Gth Acc	144.60	153.80†	+ 0.10	.
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	128.30	136.40	− 0.60	2.67
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	137.40	146.10	− 0.60	2.67
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	132.50	140.90	− 0.60	3.70
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	143.50	152.60	− 0.70	3.70
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	337.50	358.10†	− 8.40	1.81
Cash	49.52	50.26†	+ 0.04	4.54
Growth Portfolio	103.80	110.40	− 0.20	.
Income Portfolio	81.21	86.16†	− 0.86	2.86
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	234.39	250.60	− 8.00	0.51
Dividend	109.40	117.60	− 3.70	3.85
Int Gth & Inc	282.10	301.70	− 3.80	1.32
UK & Gen	54.94	58.76	− 1.83	1.16
Fund of Funds	81.49	87.16	+ 0.39	.
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 8491				
American Smlr Cos	219.90	235.20	− 2.40	0.14
European Gth	849.70	900.50	+ 0.70	0.53
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	58.00	61.47	− 0.20	3.88
-do- Accum	66.60	70.56	− 0.23	3.88
High Yield #	51.93	54.67	− 0.29	7.47
-do- Accum #	60.02	63.41	− 0.51	7.47
Income Inc	213.50	228.40	− 4.30	3.78
-do- Accum	248.00	265.30	− 5.00	3.78
Intl Growth	412.70	437.80	− 2.00	0.28
Intl Income	108.60	115.00	− 0.30	2.06
Japan Growth	458.00	485.70	− 5.70	..
Orient Acc	221.10	236.50	+10.40	0.13
UK General Inc	204.90	218.80	− 5.00	1.60
UK General Acc	368.00	392.90	− 8.90	1.60
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	63.03	67.42	− 0.48	1.72
UK Spec Sits	114.40	122.40	− 1.40	1.34
US Growth	221.30	234.00	+ 1.60	.
Wwide Spec Sits	174.50	185.30	− 0.80	..
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	66.03	70.61	− 2.32	1.94
Practical Inv Inc #	135.00	144.39	− 1.67	3.33
-do- Accum #	328.11	350.92	− 4.07	3.33
UK Index	196.50	207.54	− 4.57	2.94
UK Smaller Cos	223.40	238.93	− 8.06	0.31
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.56	26.49	− 0.14	6.91
High Income	38.61	41.18†	− 0.90	4.13
UK Growth & Inc	178.79	190.89	− 4.65	2.50
Global Bond	27.76	28.79†	− 0.52	4.83
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	54.10	57.86	+ 0.84	..
Global Managed	162.32	172.43	+ 0.61	1.13
Gold & Intl Res	107.40	114.87†	− 2.51	.
Global Utilities	169.10	180.27†	− 0.45	0.78
Overseas Funds				
American	234.93	248.78†	+ 2.70	0.48
European	163.96	174.02	+ 0.25	0.46
Euro Sel Opps	251.73	267.41	+ 1.46	..
Amer Emerging	184.00	195.86	+ 2.70	..
Hong Kong	225.13	241.14	+16.67	0.71
Japan	215.58	228.67	− 0.25	.
Pacific Growth	241.37	259.39†	+ 7.86	.
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	388.52	388.52	− 2.73	1.70
Long Term Bal	305.53	305.53	− 2.07	2.70
Med Term Bal	247.39	247.39	− 2.63	2.52
UK Equity	341.20	341.20†	− 7.38	2.33
UK Emerging Cos	185.15	185.15†	− 2.37	2.11
American	401.03	401.03	+ 3.32	0.32
Japan	126.33	126.33	− 0.45	.
European	424.18	424.18	+ 1.65	0.70
Index Linked Gilt	191.30	191.30†	− 1.01	2.68
Fixed Interest	189.74	189.74†	− 0.76	7.04
Amer Emerging	405.74	405.74	+ 5.56	...
Pacific	234.29	234.29†	+ 4.11	0.88
Emerging Mkts	148.12	148.12	+ 1.70	0.60
Index Strat Japan	133.07	133.07	− 0.98	0.22
-do- Pacific Rim	214.15	214.15	+ 7.42	1.10
-do- Cont Europe	225.31	225.31	+ 0.56	1.22
Index Strat USA	238.15	238.15	+ 1.71	1.23
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	136.38	145.08	− 1.38	.
Med Term Bal	118.52	126.08	− 0.23	
Cash Trust	150.60	150.80†	+ 0.13	5.72
Long Term Bal	138.05	146.86	+ 0.35	
UK Equity	159.01	169.15	− 3.67	...
UK Emerging Cos	87.26	92.83	− 1.19	
American	186.15	198.03	+ 1.63	
Japan	60.43	64.29	− 0.24	
European	176.55	187.81	+ 0.73	..
Fixed Interest	98.24	104.50	− 0.42	.
Index Linked Gilt	85.32	90.76	− 0.48	
Deposit	90.95	96.75	+ 0.08	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	169.50	178.42	+ 1.62	0.48
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	732.70	779.47	+10.41	1.10
-do- Accum	831.69	884.78	+11.82	1.10
European Inc	200.66	213.03	+ 0.62	1.24
Amalgam Inc	178.61	190.01	+ 2.87	.
N America Inc	473.83	504.07	+17.02	...
Far East Inc	389.98	414.87	+ 2.04	0.62
-do- Accum	404.76	430.59	+ 2.11	0.62
UK Dvld Inc	232.62	247.47	+ 4.33	1.65
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
Protected Funds				
UK Safeguard	132.47	139.76	− 0.79	
Do NAV to Jun 20	129.82	129.82	+ 6.23	
UK Equity Safegrd	103.81	110.40	− 0.22	2.47
Do NAV to Sep 19	101.73	101.73	+ 5.04	
Cash	95.93	96.71	+ 1.00	5.50
UK Growth Funds				
UK Equity Gen	322.50	342.90†	−11.60	1.79
British Growth	77.30	82.66	− 0.77	1.43
UK Small Cos	74.21	79.38	+ 0.43	0.49
FTSE 250 Index	94.01	100.54	− 1.71	2.11
Geared UK Index	1994.01	2105.04†	−127.00	5.00
Income Funds				
UK Equity Inc #	100.47	107.44	− 3.15	4.24
Corp Bd	83.76	83.91	− 0.04	
Monthly Inc	40.40	43.01†	− 0.76	8.91
International Funds				
American Gen	281.00	297.30	+ 3.70	
American Strat	239.70	256.35	− 4.07	
GS US Index	2159.04	2274.53†	+ 2.00	4.00
European Gen	323.31	342.00	− 1.00	0.71
European Strat	137.16	146.68	+ 0.23	
Japan Gen	154.13	162.70	+ 0.82	
Japan Strat	52.23	56.56	+ 0.47	
Asia Pacific	104.56	111.82	+ 2.25	
Pacific Strat	169.91	181.71	− 1.02	
Greater China	298.73	319.48	+23.82	
Latin America	125.03	133.66		
Intl Growth	178.22	190.60	− 0.32	
Balanced Exempt	152.50	157.80		2.38
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9668				
European	689.20	736.40†	+ 4.40	
Gilt & Fixed	135.30	143.50	− 0.70	5.46
Growth Equity	487.90	521.20†	−15.80	1.28
Income Trust	166.70	178.00†	− 9.30	3.55
International	230.10	245.80	− 0.10	
Japan Trust	118.90	127.00	− 1.90	
Nth American	419.90	447.50	+ 5.90	
Pacific	595.30	636.00	+12.30	0.02
Guardhill	716.10	765.00	−21.30	1.19
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
Gold Trust	98.30	102.01†	− 0.86	5.34
Global High Inc	95.07	98.86	− 0.66	5.29
Corporate Bond	108.78	112.92	− 0.37	6.85
Eqty & Bond Inc	122.46	130.21	− 1.93	4.75
European Growth	153.80	163.52	+ 0.81	
Intl PEP Trust	82.68	87.92	+ 0.05	
Equity Inc	154.75	163.90†	− 5.10	3.36
-do- Accum	231.94	246.61	− 7.66	3.36
Recovery	456.10	484.90†	−19.10	2.78
-do- Accum	548.90	583.50	−22.50	2.78
Gl Strat High Inc	137.19	139.74	− 2.77	7.01
UK Emerg Cos	327.63	348.49†	− 4.40	2.81
UK Smlr Cos	430.30	428.50	− 3.20	3.11
Stkd Prv Tst	146.09	155.33	+ 0.63	0.85
-do- Accum	151.81	161.50	+ 0.66	0.85
Int Share Tst	97.50	103.13†	− 2.04	8.35
Small Cos	105.36	112.00	− 1.02	1.96
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Balanced Inc	60.00	63.67	− 1.14	3.34
Balanced Acc	64.58	68.48	− 1.23	3.34
Growth	37.06	39.33	− 1.00	1.91
Growth Acc	38.63	40.93	− 1.04	1.91
Income	35.10	37.22†	− 1.08	4.70
Income Acc	38.56	40.89	− 1.18	4.70
Dealing: 01904 611110				
Accumulation Tst	70.23	72.75	− 0.96	2.95
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
High Prowlar	101.73	106.10†	− 0.70	6.42
Model Ptflio	273.00	286.80	− 7.40	2.05
HARGREAVES LANSDOWN FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 690 230 Dealing: 01277 690 412				
UK Port Acc	48.98	51.97	− 0.57	2.07
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0345 494949 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	386.04	413.06	− 9.17	0.90
Best of British	81.68	86.82†	− 1.93	2.42
UK Smaller Cos	161.05	173.09	− 2.29	0.95
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	344.80	367.19†	− 8.12	3.73
-do- Accum #	1002.49	1067.61	−23.67	3.73
High Income	374.81	400.66	− 7.09	4.37
Extra Income #	318.69	333.13†	− 6.84	6.65
Pref & Bond	57.47	53.19	− 0.32	8.00
International				
Ethical	131.13	140.24	− 1.39	1.44
International	369.58	392.40	+ 1.59	
Global Bond	53.52	56.26	− 0.34	5.38
Inc Port Tst	109.34	116.92†	− 0.55	0.74
Global Tech	251.26	251.72	− 0.07	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	204.35	218.51†	+ 4.57	0.30
European	74.23	79.65	+ 2.62	0.52
European Income #	106.30	112.54	− 0.48	2.94
Euro Smlr Cos	222.11	238.40	− 3.19	0.70
European Value	107.14	114.05	− 0.60	
-do- Accum	115.70	123.17	− 0.64	
Japan Trust	213.56	228.93	− 1.34	

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Japan Smlr Cos	189.24	200.60	+ 1.31	.
Pacific Smlr Cos	242.44	258.28	+ 4.78	.
North American	388.72	412.84	+ 2.92	.
American Smaller	194.64	207.15	+ 0.54	...
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	177.20	186.60	− 0.70	4.65
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	141.32	147.98†	− 3.70	1.47
Capital	227.67	238.40	− 3.02	1.27
Dollar	593.27	621.22	+ 8.63	.
Enterprise Gth	456.94	478.47	− 8.95	0.77
European	325.59	340.93	+ 1.56	0.07
Far East	307.79	322.29	+ 7.86	0.49
Financial	1281.43	1341.81	−27.77	1.20
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	27.42	28.51	− 0.13	6.54
High Yield #	123.99	129.84†	− 3.24	4.55
Income & Growth #	185.85	194.60	− 4.95	3.39
International	327.65	343.09	+ 0.61	0.29
Japanese General	188.59	197.47	− 1.35	.
Japan Tech	87.97	92.11	− 0.04	...
Nat Resources	78.44	82.13	− 2.42	0.47
Portfolio	91.35	95.65	− 1.32	1.32
Special Sits	227.42	238.14	− 6.13	0.06
UK Emerging Cos	134.17	140.49	− 1.37	1.02
US Smaller Cos	170.71	178.75†	+ 0.76	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 101 860 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	724.20	772.80	−17.90	4.68
UK Growth	796.40	849.60	−23.80	1.46
High Income #	128.80	137.50	− 2.20	5.53
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	750.70	793.50	+ 4.70	0.27
European Gwth	179.60	189.80	+ 1.40	0.19
Japan Gwth	271.30	285.10	− 1.40	.
Japan Smlr Cos	29.54	31.53	+ 0.11	.
Asian	64.77	69.12	+ 1.96	..
Sing & Malay Gwth	82.18	87.71†	− 2.03	.
Hong Kong Gwth	225.63	240.70	+18.80	0.20
Global Bond	21.24	22.38	− 0.13	4.83
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	184.10	195.10	− 4.40	2.82
Trade Index	134.10	137.50	− 1.00	2.53
THE FOOTSIE FUND	77.13	77.52†	− 1.95	2.55
Index Funds-International				
American Index	359.90	381.70	+ 2.00	0.75
Eurotrack 100	235.60	236.80	+ 0.70	0.99
Japan Index	69.86	70.23	− 0.70	0.13
Tiger Index	181.60	185.80	− 0.50	0.08
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	54.11	56.51	− 1.17	1.31
General Funds				
Managed Dist	98.14	102.50†	− 0.80	1.00
Managed	101.80	106.30†	− 0.70	1.00
Rupert Child Fnd	121.40	126.50	− 3.30	1.82
UK Growth	79.57	83.10†	− 1.92	1.52
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	97.75	102.10	− 2.30	5.40
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.47	28.36†	− 0.56	7.66
UK Inc & Gwth	54.51	56.93	− 1.33	2.78
UK Income #	419.40	438.00	−10.60	4.22
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	72.45	75.00	+ 0.99	
Amer Smlr Cos	174.80	182.60†	+ 3.10	.
-do- Accum	176.70	184.50†	+ 3.10	..
Europe Gth	273.70	285.40	− 2.50	...
-do- Accum	283.50	295.70	− 2.50	.
Euro Smaller Cos	50.34	52.41	− 0.71	...
French Growth	108.30	112.40	− 1.60	0.03
-do- Accum	117.20	121.70	− 1.70	0.03
H Kong & China	149.50	155.80	+13.50	0.27
Intl Growth	78.51	81.78	+ 0.31	0.36
-do- Accum	79.99	83.32	+ 0.32	0.36
Japan Gth	27.80	28.97†	− 0.17	.
-do- Accum	27.80	28.97†	− 0.17	.
Japan Smaller Cos	32.12	33.52	− 0.16	.
Glob Emg Mkts	110.80	115.70	+ 2.30	..
-do- Accum	111.60	116.60	+ 2.30	..
SE Asia	371.80	388.30	+14.10	
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	49.60	51.13†	− 0.26	6.64
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690446				
UK Income #	119.10	126.60†	− 3.90	3.22
UK Growth	123.10	130.80†	− 3.80	1.61
Hy 5 Europe	109.00	114.40	− 2.10	1.95
Slater Gwth	204.40	218.00	− 7.80	0.92
New Japan	91.09	96.21	+ 1.50	.
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	210.70	224.10	− 2.10	..
Income #	249.25	265.15	− 1.79	3.81
UK Growth	94.66	100.69	− 1.40	1.84
Intl Growth	96.44	102.59	− 0.43	0.55
Ecology	111.34	118.44	− 2.02	0.74
European	239.89	255.20	− 2.02	0.20
Far Eastern	336.19	357.64	+ 3.54	..
UK Special Sits	60.77	64.62	− 0.59	0.57
Fd of Inv Tsts	59.21	63.15†	− 0.78	...
High Income #	55.47	59.16	− 1.26	4.71

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	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	103.70	107.10†	− 0.60	6.71
Euro Priv Inc	118.30	125.90	+ 0.40	2.75
-do- Accum	118.30	125.90	+ 0.40	2.75
Gilt Yield	121.60	128.20†	− 0.80	6.31
Global Income	254.80	271.10†	− 1.30	2.98
High Yield	181.00	192.50	− 6.40	4.84
-do- Accum	610.30	649.30	−21.60	4.84
Money Market	100.19	100.19†	+ 0.08	5.78
Smllr Coz Div	65.15	69.31†	− 0.45	3.73
Tomorrows Co Er Acc	1068.00	1084.00†	−41.00	3.40
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	174.50	185.60	+ 2.70	
Asian Growth	320.90	341.40	+10.00	
-do- Accum	377.10	401.20	+11.80	
North American	129.60	137.80	+ 1.00	
European Special	149.10	158.60	− 2.20	1.05
European	210.00	223.40†	− 0.50	0.62
-do- Accum	279.30	297.10†	− 0.80	0.62
Global Eqty Inc	136.40	144.80	− 1.40	1.93
Japan	382.50	406.90†	− 4.70	.
Japanese Special	204.40	217.40	+ 0.30	
Smaller Cos	154.80	164.70†	− 3.10	0.95
UK Equity Growth	61.82	65.77	− 7.09	1.08
UK Index Inc	384.00	385.90†	−10.90	3.44
Bardarn Tst	117.80	126.60†	+ 0.90	1.50
-do- Accum	119.80	128.70†	+ 0.80	1.50
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	343.10	365.00	− 7.67	4.52
Ext Growth	111.10	118.26	+ 0.74	1.27
Inc & Growth	77.42	82.36	− 1.35	3.44
Smaller Cos	99.33	105.67	− 1.64	1.19
Ever Spec Sit Inc	62.44	66.43†	− 0.12	1.71
Ever Spec Sit Acc	65.51	69.69†	− 0.15	1.71
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 630 432				
UK Gap	511.80	543.00	−10.90	1.70
UK Inc/Gth #	547.80	581.20	−10.70	3.30
UK Income #	382.70	406.10†	− 7.10	4.15
UK Sm Cos	309.90	331.40	− 6.10	1.78
Euro Gwth	186.00	197.40	+ 0.60	0.14
N Amer Gwth	145.10	154.00	+ 0.80	
Japan Gwth	55.57	58.96	− 0.58	
Gwth Port Inc	78.83	83.20	− 0.71	0.63
Gwth Port Acc	80.15	84.59	− 0.73	0.63
Inc Port Inc	69.18	73.01	− 1.04	3.73
Inc Port Acc	78.62	82.98	− 1.17	3.65
Wwide Port	64.46	68.03†	+ 0.33	
Emg Mkt Gwth	96.05	101.91	+ 1.91	
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist	672.30	672.30†	−18.60	2.43
-do- Accum	1402.00	1402.00†	−29.00	2.43
Equity Income #	113.90	113.80	− 2.70	4.75
UK Ind Alloctn	77.74	77.74†	− 2.23	4.58
European	172.60	172.60	+ 0.20	0.54
Far Eastern	241.10	241.10	+ 4.70	
Fixed Interest	56.04	56.04†	− 0.46	6.46
Gilt	93.84	93.84	− 0.52	6.19
Global Growth	90.01	90.01†	− 0.62	0.31
Intl Bond	49.76	49.76	− 0.33	4.70
Japanese	69.78	69.78	− 0.17	
North American	264.50	264.50	+ 2.00	0.24
Pacific Growth	129.20	129.20	+ 3.90	0.22
Pacific Index	50.27	50.27	+ 1.55	1.95
UK Index	68.15	68.15	− 1.93	2.93
UK Recovery	127.70	127.70	− 1.50	1.87
UK Smaller Cos	163.20	163.20	− 2.50	1.37
US Index	104.60	104.60†	+ 0.90	0.93
European Index	109.20	109.20	+ 0.40	1.22
Japan Index	35.99	35.99†	− 0.31	
Worldwide	109.50	109.50†	− 0.60	1.37
LINCOLN UNIT TRUST MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 623				
Growth	63.98	68.42†	− 1.47	2.13
Income	75.30	80.53	− 2.14	3.91
Far East	49.54	52.98	+ 0.58	.
North American	153.30	163.70	+ 3.00	
Global	104.00	111.20	− 0.50	0.79
European	118.60	126.50	− 0.50	0.63
Japan	91.23	97.57	− 0.86	
Intl Currency Bd	56.66	60.00	− 0.22	5.34
SE Asia	103.70	110.30	+ 2.50	0.39
UK Cap Growth	116.00	124.00	− 2.50	1.54
Recovery Trust	92.34	101.10	− 1.60	1.94
Managed	80.33	85.11	− 0.42	1.52
Cash	50.73	50.73	+ 0.03	4.55
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 834 320 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	463.10	492.70	− 8.00	1.92
-do- Accum	1117.00	1189.00	−22.00	1.92
Cont Euro Gth	93.55	99.45	− 0.45	0.03
-do- Accum	101.30	106.70	+ 0.40	0.03
Extra Inc	320.00	340.50†	− 10.50	3.72
Extra Inc Acc #	907.50	965.50	− 29.70	3.72
FTSE 100 Inc	144.70	154.00	− 4.90	2.25
FTSE 100 Acc	151.10	160.80	− 5.10	2.25
German Gth	168.40	177.70	+ 1.00	
-do- Accum	176.60	185.90	+ 1.00	
Growth Port	730.60	777.10	− 7.20	0.15
-do- Accum	767.20	809.90	− 24.20	0.15
High Interest Inc	100.50	100.30†	− 0.80	7.33
High Interest Acc	114.80	114.00	− 0.90	7.33
Hi Reserve Inc #	114.30	121.60†	− 7.30	5.98
Hi Reserve Acc #	128.90	137.20	− 2.70	5.98
Income Inc	673.70	674.20	− 13.70	3.30
Income Acc #	1508.00	1604.00	− 41.00	3.30
Income Port	64.50	68.40	− 15.70	4.14
-do- Accum	118.60	124.50	− 17.60	4.14

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Japan Growth	96.43	102.60	− 1.39	...
-do- Accum	96.77	103.00	− 1.39	..
Master Trust	73.18	77.86†	− 1.63	1.31
-do- Accum	85.99	91.48	− 0.52	1.31
Millennium Acc	108.78	115.70†		2.09
N American Gen	292.80	311.50	+ 3.80	..
-do- Accum	338.90	360.60	+ 4.50	..
NAm Sm Co Rec	205.30	218.60	+ 1.30	...
-do- Accum	209.80	223.00	+ 1.40	..
Pacific Basin	252.30	268.30	+ 6.50	0.23
-do- Accum	269.90	286.10	+ 7.10	0.23
Safety First Acc	103.50	109.00	− 2.49	1.83
Do until 12/5/98 ‡	89.27	...	...	...
Small Cos Rec	537.80	566.20	− 4.40	1.81
-do- Accum	748.80	788.30	− 6.10	1.81
UK Eq Gth	187.60	199.80	− 5.80	2.33
UK Eq Inc #	147.90	157.40	− 6.30	3.86
UK Growth	120.50	128.20	− 2.50	1.60
-do- Accum	152.30	162.10	− 3.20	1.60
Worldwide Gth	396.00	421.30	− 1.10	0.25
-do- Accum	585.80	623.30	− 1.50	0.25
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
American	107.45	114.85	+ 0.43	0.60
General	121.21	130.05†	− 3.46	2.40
Income	82.12	88.11	− 2.46	4.70
International	82.09	88.07†	− 0.06	0.50
Japan	54.44	58.35	− 0.91	.
Tst of Inv Trusts	83.85	89.96	− 1.25	0.90
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	611.10	645.10	+ 7.40	0.14
-do- Accum	765.70	808.40	+ 9.30	0.14
Amer Recovery	720.80	762.20	+ 9.40	..
-do- Accum	833.60	881.50	+10.90	..
Amer Smllr Cos	170.70	180.50	+ 2.80	..
-do- Accum	174.40	184.40	+ 2.80	.
Australasian	231.00	244.30	− 1.10	1.80
-do- Accum	253.90	269.70	− 1.50	1.80
Capital	1032.20	1091.60	−25.10	2.77
-do- Accum	1245.30	1316.90	−30.30	2.77
Charifund	859.90	868.50	−18.50	5.51
-do- Accum	4632.00	4649.00	−104.20	5.51
Commodity	485.90	513.80	−11.50	0.56
-do- Accum	718.50	759.80	−17.00	0.56
Compound Gwth	1191.10	1259.60	−29.20	2.88
-do- Accum	1332.00	1408.60	−32.70	2.80
Corporate Bond	28.88	28.97†	− 0.56	6.80
Dividend	47.40	50.10†	− 1.30	4.74
-do- Accum	218.40	231.10†	− 5.90	4.74
Equity Income	350.40	378.50	− 8.60	5.30
-do- Accum	496.50	525.00	− 9.30	5.30
Euro & General	737.70	780.10	− 3.70	0.56
-do- Accum	947.50	1001.90	− 4.80	0.55
Euro Dividend	91.70	97.00	− 1.00	3.41
-do- Accum	117.60	124.50	− 1.30	3.41
Euro Smlr Cos	58.00	61.30†	− 0.70	0.50
-do- Accum	58.20	61.50†	− 0.70	0.50
Extra Yield	508.90	538.20	−12.90	5.06
-do- Accum	1747.00	1847.80	−44.10	5.06
Fund of Inv Tsts	776.20	820.80†	−10.40	1.24
-do- Accum	1514.30	1601.30†	−20.30	1.24
General	78.20	82.70	− 1.60	3.63
-do- Accum	234.70	248.50	− 4.60	3.63
Gilt Income	64.60	64.70†	− 0.28	6.20
-do- Accum	204.17	204.50†	− 0.87	6.20
Gold	61.10	64.60	− 2.60	1.19
-do- Accum	73.40	77.50	− 3.50	1.19
High Income	35.80	37.90†	− 0.90	4.67
-do- Accum	159.30	168.60†	− 4.00	4.67
Intl Growth	101.70	107.60	− 0.20	0.58
-do- Accum	180.20	190.60	− 0.50	0.58
International Inc	122.30	129.30	.	4.09
-do- Accum	198.90	210.40	+ 0.20	4.09
Japan & Gen	36.60	38.60†	...	.
-do- Accum	39.30	41.40†	...	.
Japan Smlr Cos	126.80	134.10	+ 0.50	
-do- Accum	127.70	135.00	+ 0.50	..
Managed Gwth	28.80	30.50	− 0.30	1.46
Managed Income	32.30	33.80†	− 0.50	4.25
Midland	60.56	64.00	− 0.89	3.26
-do- Accum	215.20	227.80	− 2.90	3.26
Pension Ex	1176.10	1205.60	−23.90	3.91
Recovery	50.60	53.50	− 0.50	2.77
-do- Accum	87.80	92.90	− 1.00	2.77
Second General	79.70	84.30	− 0.70	3.92
-do- Accum	220.60	233.30	− 1.90	3.92
Smaller Cos	64.90	68.60	− 1.20	3.29
-do- Accum	136.30	144.30	− 2.50	3.29
Sth East Asia	417.80	441.80	+10.80	1.06
-do- Accum	560.00	592.80	+14.50	1.06
Treasury	25.18	25.22†	+ 0.02	6.10
Trustee	47.18	49.80	− 0.70	4.93
-do- Accum	208.70	221.00	− 3.30	4.93
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	120.55	128.24	+ 0.70	0.37
Intl Bond	61.89	65.01†	− 0.43	4.49
Intl Equity Growth	96.34	102.37†	+ 0.37	0.41
N Amer Growth	163.27	173.29	+ 0.05	0.55
Special Sits Growth	31.35	33.35	− 0.95	1.96
UK Growth	520.85	553.24	−15.68	2.37
-do- Accum	725.41	771.71	−21.87	2.37
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1553.20	1574.40†	−11.10	2.70
Income #	1134.60	1151.90	− 7.70	4.30
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	185.90	190.10†	.	3.26
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
High Inc #	98.75	101.80†	− 1.20	6.41
M & S Inv Ptflo	197.50	203.60	− 3.10	2.29
-do- Accum	236.70	244.00	− 3.80	2.29
UK Sel Ptflo	176.50	182.00†	− 4.70	2.29
-do- Accum	217.20	223.90†	− 5.90	2.29
UK 100 Cos	137.80	137.80	− 4.30	2.43
-do- Accum	141.20	141.20	− 4.50	2.43
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	73.41	78.10	+ 0.08	3.39
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	94.58	100.40†	− 1.30	3.27
European	121.10	128.60		0.32
Income #	94.71	100.50†	− 2.10	3.84
Nth American	114.90	122.00†	+ 0.60	0.01
Far East	201.60	214.00†	+ 2.40	0.15
Japan	65.70	69.74	+ 0.39	
Emrging Mkts	105.20	112.50	+ 0.50	
Intl Growth	153.80	163.30	+ 0.90	0.51
UK Growth	137.60	146.10	− 2.30	2.19
UK Smlr Co	64.22	68.17†	− 0.72	1.77
Asia Pacific	42.91	45.89†	+ 1.13	0.44
Glob Gwth PEP	73.85	78.39	− 0.06	0.30
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0181 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	111.80	119.00		0.20
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Income	528.82	562.57	−12.42	3.12
Global Inc	82.81	88.10	− 0.83	3.41
Brit Leaders Inc	424.73	451.84	−12.29	1.60
Intl Leaders	269.13	286.31	+ 1.71	0.61
PAM Mg Bal Gwth	76.03	79.16	+ 0.09	0.33
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	329.60	347.50	+ 2.40	
-do- Accum	352.40	371.50	+ 2.60	
American Opps	129.70	137.00		
-do- Accum	130.30	138.70		
British Blue Chip	110.90	117.40	− 3.70	2.56
-do- Accum	144.60	153.10	− 4.80	2.56
Cash	100.80	100.80		5.88
-do- Accum	153.00	153.00	+ 0.20	5.88
Emerging Mkts	158.20	170.10†	+ 1.80	0.61
-do- Accum	160.40	172.50†	+ 1.70	0.61
European Growth	394.30	417.10	+ 1.30	0.46
-do- Accum	429.90	454.80	+ 1.50	0.46
European Income	97.93	103.58†	− 3.60	3.96
-do- Accum	145.50	153.90†	− 1.70	3.96
General	663.20	704.20	−25.40	2.24
-do- Accum	1375.00	1459.00	−54.00	2.24
Global Bond	177.10	181.50	− 1.00	4.75
-do- Accum	177.70	181.50	− 1.20	4.75
Gold & General	175.20	187.20†	−12.70	0.39
-do- Accum	181.30	193.70†	−12.60	0.39
Govt Securities	96.17	99.09†	− 0.40	5.40
-do- Accum	217.50	218.00†	− 0.90	5.40
High Yield Bd	104.50	107.00†	− 0.60	6.47
-do- Accum	115.60	118.50†	− 0.60	6.47
Income	211.80	224.70†	− 6.70	4.01
-do- Accum	361.50	383.40†	−11.50	4.01
Inc Portfolio #	121.30	128.20	− 2.60	4.99
-do- Accum #	135.50	143.30	− 2.80	4.99
Intl Opps	626.50	668.30†	− 1.40	0.74
-do- Accum	851.20	907.90†	− 2.10	0.74
Japan	174.80	186.30	− 1.00	
-do- Accum	179.50	191.30	− 1.00	
New Europe	273.90	292.20	− 0.80	0.96
-do- Accum	287.50	306.70	− 0.80	0.96
Pacific	117.40	125.70	+ 3.60	0.44
-do- Accum	126.50	134.90	+ 3.90	0.44
Recovery	513.50	547.70	− 3.50	1.65
-do- Accum	683.80	729.40	− 4.60	1.65
UK Smaller Cos	63.71	67.96	− 0.64	1.49
-do- Accum	73.71	78.62	− 0.75	1.49
Portfolio	102.70	108.80	− 2.10	2.69
-do- Accum	128.50	136.10	− 2.60	2.69
Managed Gth	134.50	140.60†	− 1.80	1.80
Managed Inc	129.80	137.40†	− 2.50	4.04
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
01707 662 233				
Entergrowth Plus	186.04	197.92†	+ 0.70	0.12
Portfolio	89.75	95.48†	− 1.68	1.76
UK Income Inc	103.81	110.38	− 3.03	4.28
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	76.06	79.64	− 0.84	2.80
-do- Accum	85.12	89.13	− 0.94	2.68
British Tst	123.70	129.50	− 2.90	2.01
-do- Accum	151.20	158.30	− 3.60	2.01
Corp Bond Inc	102.10	105.80	0.50	6.53
-do- Accum	108.80	112.70	− 0.50	6.53
Extra High Inc	76.97	80.60	− 1.73	6.26
-do- Accum #	170.30	178.30	− 2.70	6.26
FTSE 100 Acc	83.47	87.40	− 2.23	2.12
FTSE 100 Dist	77.78	81.45	− 2.07	2.12
Gilt & Fxd Int	57.17	59.49†	− 0.19	6.43
-do- Accum	189.50	197.20†	− 0.60	6.43
High Yield	259.80	272.00	− 5.00	5.48
-do- Accum #	745.20	780.30	−14.20	5.48
Household Names	107.30	107.80	− 2.30	2.13
Income	363.40	380.50	− 8.40	4.19
-do- Accum #	866.30	907.70	−20.00	4.19
Money Market UT	49.55	49.55	+ 0.04	5.54
-do- Accum	85.73	85.73	+ 0.07	5.54

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Monthly Income	104.90	108.90†	− 2.90	4.43
Midland Personal Pension Unit Tst				
British	157.80	167.90	− 4.80	1.97
European Growth	161.20	170.90	+ 2.80	...
Gilt & Fixed	106.70	113.10	− 0.40	6.21
Income	119.20	126.80	− 2.70	4.08
Japan Growth	46.24	49.01	+ 0.36	...
Managed	92.96	98.89	− 1.71	2.42
Money Market	98.64	104.80	+ 0.10	5.21
North American	133.20	141.20	+ 3.20	...
Midland PSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	143.10	152.20	− 4.40	1.97
European Growth	151.20	160.30	+ 2.60	.
Gilt & Fixed	99.96	106.00	− 0.30	6.21
Income	116.70	124.20	− 2.70	4.08
Japan Growth	46.03	48.81	+ 0.36	..
Managed	88.74	94.40	− 1.58	2.42
Money Market	91.05	96.52	+ 0.10	5.21
North American	119.50	126.60	+ 2.80	.
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	141.80	150.80	− 4.40	1.97
European Growth	147.90	156.70	+ 2.50	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	88.96	95.41	− 0.30	6.21
Income	113.40	120.60	− 2.60	4.08
Japan Growth	47.41	50.25	+ 0.35	...
Managed	91.59	97.86	− 1.07	2.40
Money Market	82.57	87.52	+ 0.07	5.22
North American	133.80	141.80	+ 2.70	..
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	549.60	582.80	+ 1.10	..
European Gth Inc	632.00	672.40†	− 6.80	...
-do- Accum	636.90	678.70†	− 6.80	...
Intl Gwth	266.70	282.90†	+ 1.00	.
UK Equity Inc	349.30	361.90	− 5.80	3.94
Do Accum	341.10	362.70	− 5.80	3.94
UK Growth Inc	143.40	153.80	− 3.20	3.10
-do- Accum	147.90	158.30	− 3.20	3.10
UK Intl Trckr Inc	223.00	237.60	− 5.00	2.83
-do- Accum	278.80	297.20	− 6.20	2.83
US Eq Intl Tck Inc	346.80	368.00	+ 2.50	0.93
Japan Tracker	85.52	89.12†	− 0.42	.
Asian Tracker	237.20	255.80	+ 7.30	0.26
Mngd Ptflio Inc	205.20	219.80†	− 4.50	1.63
Mngd Ptflio Acc	227.80	242.70†	− 3.90	1.63
Deposit Inc	100.11	100.11†	+ 0.09	5.75
Europe	270.60	286.90	− 5.80	.
Genesis	219.00	236.70†	− 2.40	2.38
High Income	21.33	22.60†	− 0.13	10.00
Japan Growth	96.52	102.40	− 0.80	..
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 933				
Acumen	119.10	121.70	− 1.60	2.01
Acumen Inc	107.20	109.50	− 1.50	2.01
Acumen Recovery	101.70	102.80	− 0.60	0.90
-do- Inc	76.35	77.12	− 0.45	0.90
American Growth	83.44	85.46	+ 1.41	.
Equity Income #	116.90	118.90†	− 3.90	3.75
European	99.01	100.60	+ 0.50	0.09
Smaller Cos	100.40	104.70†	− 1.90	1.90
W'wide Eqty	89.28	91.18	− 0.20	..
Global Bond	41.65	42.89†	− 0.21	4.77
UK Growth	127.18	130.90	− 4.40	1.05
Pacific Growth	122.50	126.20	+ 3.90	0.06
Japan Growth	55.70	57.29	− 0.23	..
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	169.70	180.53	− 5.14	2.39
For N&P see Abbey National				
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
American Dist	146.60	154.20†	+ 0.20	0.26
European Dist	178.49	187.80†	− 0.80	0.82
Far East Dist	184.90	194.60	− 1.20	..
Global Care Dist	95.41	100.40†	− 1.84	0.51
Oseas Dist	1291.00	1358.00	− 8.20	..
-do- Accum	1602.30	1686.80	− 6.10	..
UK Dist	489.10	514.80†	−11.00	1.49
-do- Accum	1011.80	1065.10	−22.70	1.49
UK Extra Inc Dist	101.40	106.70	− 2.70	3.18
Wwide Dist	129.20	136.00	− 1.40	..
Wwide Inc Dist	96.54	101.62	− 1.47	1.56
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 01277 690 260 Admin Enq: 01277 690 308				
Europe Inc	94.65	99.89	− 0.09	0.31
Fund of Funds Inc	77.15	81.42†	− 1.12	1.23
North America Inc	79.27	83.65†	+ 1.81	0.11
UK Equity Gth Inc	76.85	80.90†	− 2.55	1.96
-do- Accum	84.10	88.76	− 2.79	1.96
UK General Inc	75.35	79.52	− 1.87	2.02
-do- Accum	84.44	89.12	− 2.09	2.02
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	48.86	51.46	− 0.31	6.10
UK Income Inc	73.25	77.31†	− 1.97	3.40
UK Smlr Cos Inc	121.70	128.40	− 1.60	1.14
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	68.24	64.08	+ 0.29	.
-do- Accum	60.71	64.58	+ 0.29	.
Bond	127.79	135.64†	− 0.56	5.65
Cash Income	50.33	50.33†	+ 0.05	5.30
-do- Accum	71.25	71.25†	+ 0.07	5.30
Distributor	115.15	122.50†	− 2.76	2.74
European	68.01	72.35†	+ 0.74	.
Foundation	122.55	130.37	− 0.72	2.20
General Inc	284.20	286.05	− 0.32	1.03
General Acc	287.90	295.05	− 0.32	1.03
Growth Inc	156.87	166.88	− 5.55	1.83
Growth Acc	162.71	173.09	− 5.75	1.83
Higher Income Inc	36.34	38.65	− 0.62	4.78
-do- Accum	45.05	47.92	− 0.78	4.78
Income	304.00	323.40	− 4.78	2.96
Intnatl	169.55	176.01†	−	1.43
Intl Gwth	45.40	48.29	+ 0.75	.
Japan	29.28	31.14	− 0.25	.
Oriental Inc	157.92	168.00	+ 6.20	0.28
-do- Accum	163.57	174.01	+ 6.42	0.28
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2555				
High Income #	52.80	55.87	− 1.08	5.81
UK Growth	128.30	135.80	− 1.30	2.41
NORWICH UNION TST MGRS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	157.64	165.94	− 1.03	1.27
UK Equity	192.23	202.35	− 3.96	2.62
UK Equity Income	169.75	178.68†	− 3.83	3.37
UK Smaller Cos	149.87	157.86	− 0.65	1.36
UK Equity Growth	170.69	179.67	− 1.94	1.53
UK Index Trckg	192.16	202.81	− 7.12	2.53
Intl Index Trckg	197.19	208.12	+ 0.82	0.64
International	210.25	225.59	+ 0.51	0.58
European	300.76	316.59	+ 2.44	0.02
Pan European	198.31	208.75†	+ 2.51	0.27
Nth American	283.99	298.94†	+ 2.06	0.32
N Amer Smlr Cos	296.03	311.61	+ 1.39	..
Japanese	93.19	98.10†	− 0.34	..
Pacific	242.51	255.27†	+ 3.00	0.35
South East Asian	282.67	297.55	+ 6.64	0.51
Sterling Bond	104.57	110.07	− 0.41	6.88
Intl Bond	125.87	132.49	− 0.83	4.51
Gilt & Convertible	111.79	117.67†	− 3.57	5.96
Property	86.55	91.11†	− 0.23	5.72
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	396.70	425.90†	− 6.40	0.04
-do- Accum	421.60	452.50†	− 6.90	0.04
Japan Inc	99.96	106.10	− 0.50	
Nth American Inc	190.90	202.20	+ 2.40	0.61
Worldwide Inc	207.00	220.90	− 1.70	0.23
Hong Kong Inc	238.50	252.30	+23.00	0.63
Swiss Equities Inc	109.30	116.00	+ 1.00	.
Wwide Bond Inc	67.57	71.42	− 0.44	4.93
Emging Asia Inc	198.30	213.70	+ 5.70	0.16
-do- Accum	199.10	214.50	+ 5.80	0.16
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.30	50.30†	+ 0.04	5.38
Thailand Inc	64.73	70.59	− 5.82	3.37
New Zealand Inc	104.30	111.90	+ 0.80	2.27
Int Mngd PEP Inc	81.19	86.88	− 1.64	0.62
Latin Am Crsp Inc	87.86	93.95	+ 0.26	0.52
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	80.33	81.56	− 1.84	2.16
Broker Unit Trusts				
Way Global Blue	90.46	96.26	+ 0.21	
Global Portfolio	79.80	85.35†	+ 0.19	.
Way Global Red	71.34	75.89†	+ 0.49	
Marsh Global Grth	69.38	73.80	− 0.74	
AMR Brit Gwth Inc	121.70	130.00	− 2.20	0.83
Temple Equity Inc	52.87	57.39	− 1.06	2.00
Hartley Growth	132.60	141.10	− 1.80	0.31
Intl Growth Inc	88.04	94.16	+ 0.03	.
IPS Portfolio Inc	102.60	109.70	− 0.60	
Roxburgh Stnl Gth	81.26	86.91	− 0.18	0.16
UFC Growth	70.56	75.47	+ 0.11	.
Cushfield Port of Fds	59.15	62.76†	− 0.72	
PM UT MGRS LTD				
0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	255.10	271.40	− 1.70	0.87
European Gth	156.20	165.40	− 1.70	0.25
Income & Gth #	174.00	185.10	− 1.20	2.86
Japan Gth	102.70	109.30	− 0.90	.
Nth Amer Gth	269.20	285.70	+ 1.80	0.09
Overseas Gth	142.20	151.10	− 0.20	
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	316.30	336.50†	−10.30	1.74
-do- Accum	706.70	751.70	−23.20	1.74
Growth	203.00	213.70†	− 6.70	2.13
Income	304.30	323.70	− 7.60	3.42
Intl Equity	317.60	337.80	− 1.10	0.12
-do- Accum	356.70	378.30	− 1.20	0.12
Equity Income #	82.53	87.79	− 2.37	4.87
Equity Growth	107.80	114.68	− 2.80	1.27
New Europe	124.30	132.10	+ 1.60	
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	797.82	851.01	− 5.81	0.47
-do- Accum	801.97	856.30	− 5.84	0.47
Income	510.34	545.34	−18.56	2.74
Wwide Recovery	519.38	555.43	− 2.37	0.43
Amer Growth Inc	337.00	358.37	− 0.44	0.01
-do- Accum	337.80	358.37	− 0.44	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	305.95	327.22	− 0.79	0.41
Far East Gwth Inc	321.18	343.51	− 1.43	0.70
-do- Accum	325.19	347.80	− 1.45	0.70
Euro Gwth Inc	225.87	240.97	− 0.74	0.37
-do- Accum	226.66	241.80	− 0.24	0.37
UK Growth Inc	130.63	139.85	− 4.95	2.40
-do- Accum	143.57	153.48	− 5.44	2.40
High Income	133.52	142.84	− 4.73	3.18
Jap Gwth Inc	184.41	197.23	− 2.75	0.22
-do- Accum	184.41	197.23	− 2.75	0.22
PEP Bond	59.92	62.92	− 0.32	6.92
PEP Growth	168.17	179.65	− 1.82	0.99
Asian Sm Mkts Inc	141.17	150.94	+ 3.56	0.13
-do- Accum	141.58	151.43	+ 3.58	0.13
Amer Smlr Cos Inc	212.64	226.74	+ 0.87	0.01
-do- Accum	212.64	226.74	+ 0.87	0.01
Global Bond	54.48	57.42	− 0.45	5.29
UK Smaller Cos Inc	110.78	118.49	− 4.40	1.78
-do- Accum	118.01	126.22	− 4.69	1.78
Lat Am Gwth Inc	45.74	48.92†	+ 1.09	0.17
-do- Accum	46.48	49.71	+ 1.05	0.17
World Inc PEP #	48.83	51.68	− 0.00	4.00
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3927				
American	154.11	163.95†	+ 1.84	..
European	113.26	120.49	+ 0.81	
Global	76.41	81.29†	+ 0.43	
Pacific	61.85	65.56	+ 1.49	
UK Inc & Gwth	89.23	94.93	− 0.66	1.43
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 638 0808 Dlg 01277 690 430				
Asia Acc	55.74	58.96	+ 1.92	
Emerg Mkts	52.06	55.24	− 0.03	0.79
Euro Fund Acc	48.94	51.93	+ 0.78	
Fund of Funds Inc	217.68	228.50	+ 1.01	0.03
Fund of Funds Acc	219.05	230.58	+ 1.02	0.03
High Income #	57.63	60.66†	− 0.40	5.77
Performance	53.87	57.16	+ 0.40	
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	188.84	194.73	− 4.30	2.05
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0171 280 3790 Dealing: 0800 262 443				
American Income	143.40	152.60	− 0.58	2.56
Conv & Gilt	123.70	131.60†	− 2.20	4.73
Euro Spc Sit Acc	111.60	118.70	+ 0.50	
Extra Income	197.70	210.30†	− 6.50	4.35
-do- Accum	265.10	282.10	− 5.80	4.35
Far East	421.00	447.90	− 2.60	0.38
-do- Accum	429.90	457.30	− 2.70	0.38
Global Income	30.75	32.03	− 0.28	4.00
High Income	150.80	160.40	− 2.90	4.21
-do- Accum	197.30	209.90	− 3.80	4.21
International	242.50	258.00	− 1.20	0.41
-do- Accum	252.60	268.70	− 1.30	0.41
Pref & Fxd Int	48.29	51.37	− 0.21	6.65
Recovery	96.80	103.00†	+ 0.10	2.36

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Special Sits	157.10	167.20	− 2.10	1.50
-do- Accum	176.40	187.70	− 2.40	1.50
Technology	741.08	788.20	+10.70	..
UK Blue Chip	102.70	109.20	− 2.30	2.74
-do- Accum	120.90	128.70	− 2.70	2.74
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
UT Dealing: 0345 490000 Client Enq: 0345 035500				
Managed Tst	50.48	52.31	− 0.44	1.72
Cash Haven Inc	101.31	101.61†	+ 0.09	5.45
Cash Haven Acc	122.25	122.65	+ 0.10	5.45
Dist Trust Inc	113.18	117.70	− 1.57	5.21
Dist Trust Acc	131.32	136.57	− 1.83	5.21
Global Bond	118.13	125.67	− 1.64	1.05
Equity Inc	96.89	102.28†	− 2.25	4.34
Equity	956.80	1080.52	−21.61	2.15
European	321.99	333.67†	+ 2.29	0.45
High Income	98.92	105.23†	− 1.79	4.95
Intl Gwth	248.26	264.11	..	0.88
Intl Sm Co	104.35	111.01	− 0.38	0.62
Japanese	193.21	208.22	− 3.50	..
Mngd Income Tst #	49.32	51.001	− 0.30	7.69
Nth Amer	293.74	304.35†	+ 2.49	1.66
Pacific Mkts	117.96	121.95	+ 5.01	0.87
Premier Inc	49.24	51.25	− 0.04	6.05
Sm Cos	111.62	118.74†	− 0.69	1.99
Spec Sits	142.56	151.66	− 2.79	2.22
UK Growth	168.69	180.49	− 3.80	2.15
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Hi Int Inc Inc	98.01	100.98	− 0.97	3.29
Investment Trust	130.71	137.45	− 0.84	0.55
UK Smaller Cos	115.85	121.82	− 1.39	1.40
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	387.70	411.20	−11.90	2.57
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	837.42	886.82	+ 0.83	...
America (Acc)	981.20	1039.00	+11.52	...
Amer Smllr Cos	73.40	78.09	+ 0.79	...
Asia	56.49	60.43	+ 1.45	...
European	485.97	515.54	− 5.08	..
Japan	213.95	227.64	− 1.50	.
Jap Smllr Cos	36.13	38.39	− 0.19	
Major UK Cos	134.07	142.72†	− 4.65	1.53
Smllr UK Cos	441.43	481.31	− 6.16	0.94
UK Equity Inc #	203.08	216.77†	− 5.94	4.09
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	53.75	56.13†	+ 1.42	.
Cash	49.85	50.05†	+ 0.01	2.92
Emerging Mkts	59.09	62.59	+ 0.87	
Eastern	72.66	75.88†	+ 0.66	.
Global Fixed Int	49.04	51.21	− 0.09	5.08
Japan	40.11	41.88	− 0.08	
North America	78.51	81.99	+ 0.84	
UK	73.43	76.68†	− 1.09	0.44
UK Equity Inc #	67.97	70.98†	− 1.20	3.31
UK Fixed Int #	51.43	53.71	− 0.14	6.95
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gwth Port	56.75	58.68	− 0.21	
Pep Inc Port	56.07	58.10	− 0.63	2.76
RAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	93.13	98.03	+ 0.09	..
Gilt	110.51	116.31	− 8.55	..
Managed	131.47	138.38	− 2.70	
Portfolio	55.73	58.66	− 0.36	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	152.70	162.00	+ 2.30	0.26
Pacific Basin	82.00	87.92	+ 1.12	0.29
Ethical	184.60	198.50	− 4.70	0.80
Bal Life Inc Dist	67.38	71.25	− 0.45	3.98
Bal Life Intl Gwth	90.59	96.44	+ 0.42	0.08
Bal Life Intl Spec	79.93	85.09	− 0.64	..
UK Emerging Cos	141.40	152.80	− 2.30	1.36
UK Index Trckg	227.00	241.30	− 4.50	3.30
European	205.30	219.50	+ 1.20	0.15
Managed	204.70	220.80	− 1.60	0.88
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	237.60	252.40	+ 1.30	1.10
European Growth	171.30	181.80	+ 1.60	1.29
Far East Growth	163.40	173.90	+ 6.90	0.86
Japan Growth	119.20	126.60	− 0.40	0.25
Special Sits	261.80	278.50	− 2.80	1.43
UK Growth	118.50	126.00†	− 2.60	2.34
Intl Growth	323.70	344.40	+ 1.30	1.56
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 8500				
Far East Inc	179.90	190.40	+ 2.60	0.30
Gt Euro Prog Inc	486.30	516.70	− 3.80	0.82
-do- Accum	766.20	818.60	− 6.00	0.92
Growth Inc	172.90	183.90	− 8.60	0.45
International Inc	456.50	483.10	− 1.00	0.42
-do- Accum	631.70	668.50	− 1.30	0.42
Nth Am & Intl Inc	453.10	479.50	− 5.10	0.07
UK Gen Prog Inc	284.40	301.00	− 5.40	1.69
-do- Accum	329.60	348.80	− 6.20	1.69
UK High Inc Inc	166.90	176.80	− 4.20	4.01
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	135.51	144.16	+ 3.38	0.75
European Gwth	113.88	121.14	+ 0.14	1.00
Global Bd	60.81	64.24	− 0.12	5.09
Japan	51.59	54.88	− 0.46	..
UK Gwth	97.74	103.97	− 1.54	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Smllr Cos	161.60	171.90	+ 1.99	
Cash	139.80	139.89†	+ 0.20	5.81
China Dragon	88.33	91.84†	+ 5.66	0.84
Commodity	141.70	150.70	− 4.10	..
Emerging Mkts	46.06	49.00†	+ 0.62	0.34
European Gwth	290.00	308.50	+ 0.40	0.55
Euro Smllr Cos	79.35	84.41	− 1.21	0.04
Extra Income #	103.90	110.50†	+ 1.80	..
Far Eastern	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
FE Sm Cos	46.37	49.33†	+ 0.33	0.50
Financial Secs	384.50	409.00	− 8.80	1.33
Gold & Exploration	75.00	79.79	− 4.59	.
Growth	516.30	512.90	− 8.70	1.75
High Income	50.96	58.98†	− 0.37	6.80
Intl Bond	158.30	167.20	− 0.90	4.78
ITU	261.70	278.40	− 4.80	0.81
Japan Growth	156.50	166.50	− 0.80	.
Japan Smaller	154.50	165.90	+ 0.20	.
Korea	41.87	44.54	− 0.74	
Latin America	54.03	57.48	+ 0.65	0.56
Masterfund	70.81	71.17†	− 0.59	6.78
Premier Eq Gth	188.30	200.30†	− 4.90	1.17
Premier Eq Inc #	411.20	437.40†	− 9.00	4.39
SE Asia	50.58	53.81†	+ 1.78	.
Southern Africa	57.78	61.47	− 1.94	1.33
UK & O'seas	229.70	244.40†	− 3.60	0.84
UK Eqty Gth	93.87	99.86	− 2.82	1.81
UK Eqty Inc #	297.00	315.80	− 7.80	4.11
UK Gth & Inc #	344.90	366.90	− 9.80	4.11
UK Sm Cos	61.85	65.80	− 0.84	1.85
US Growth	261.70	278.40	+ 1.60	..
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Cient: 0800 526 535 Bdr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	415.05	438.79†	− 0.86	0.72
-do- Accum	460.68	487.04†	− 0.95	0.72
European Gwth	108.56	114.95†	+ 0.35	0.43
Euro Smllr Cos	126.33	134.47†	− 8.60	0.04
Far Eastern Gth	112.05	119.52	+ 2.35	.
-do- Accum	114.22	121.83	+ 2.40	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	54.35	57.27	− 0.37	7.21
Global Bond #	47.33	48.89	− 0.39	5.89
-do- Accum #	57.79	59.71	− 0.46	5.89
Global Emer Mkts	62.02	66.15	+ 0.53	
-do- Accum	62.08	66.21	+ 0.53	
Income #	474.58	506.21	−13.05	4.63
-do- Accum #	1637.97	1747.18	−45.04	4.63
Japan Smllr Cos	340.61	363.31	+ 0.35	..
-do- Accum	341.29	364.04	+ 0.36	..
Japan Enterprise	64.62	68.92	− 0.42	
Pacific Gwth	167.36	178.51	+ 4.58	0.39
-do- Accum	173.98	185.57	+ 4.76	0.39
Portfolio	106.32	113.26	− 1.53	1.61
-do- Accum	119.19	126.97	− 1.71	1.61
Seoul	35.50	37.86†	− 0.28	..
-do- Accum	35.50	37.86†	− 0.28	..
Smaller Cos	350.27	373.62†	− 5.14	0.89
-do- Accum	419.53	447.50†	− 6.14	0.89
Strategic Inc	110.98	118.26	− 1.45	2.50
Strategic Acc	112.85	120.26	− 1.47	2.50
Tokyo	129.15	137.76	− 1.72	
-do- Accum	130.46	139.16	− 1.73	
UK Enterprise	364.20	388.47†	−13.45	2.09
-do- Accum	461.16	491.90†	−11.69	2.09
UK Equity	344.25	367.19	− 9.47	2.31
-do- Accum	702.04	748.84	−19.31	2.31
US Smllr Cos	274.57	292.86†	− 0.85	
-do- Accum	274.57	292.86†	− 0.85	.
Institutional Funds				
European	354.38	367.20	+ 3.32	1.03
-do- Accum	402.19	416.74	+ 3.77	1.03
Euro Smllr Cos	41.57	43.08†	− 0.35	0.91
-do- Accum	44.90	46.76†	− 0.38	0.91
Global Equity Inc	106.31	110.66	+ 0.45	0.77
Japan Smllr Cos	31.84	32.16†	− 0.31	0.12
-do- Accum	32.30	33.53†	− 0.32	0.12
Mngd Balanced	245.03	256.23	− 3.03	3.60
-do- Accum	292.98	305.18	− 3.62	3.60
Overseas Equity	249.32	259.70†	+ 1.35	0.82
-do- Accum	263.69	274.68†	+ 2.57	0.82
Oseas Smllr Cos	146.95	153.07	− 0.11	0.83
-do- Accum	156.05	162.54	− 0.13	0.83
Pacific	296.55	308.90	+10.81	1.41
-do- Accum	332.21	346.05	+11.22	1.41
Recovery	2550.76	2657.04	−18.74	2.97
-do- Accum	2928.26	2956.62	−20.85	2.97
UK Index	209.85	218.59†	− 7.81	3.17
-do- Accum	276.15	287.66†	− 9.22	3.17
UK Small Cos	150.07	156.27	− 1.61	2.46
-do- Accum	167.99	174.99	− 1.85	2.46
US Smllr Cos	74.24	77.33	− 0.01	0.74
-do- Accum	76.38	79.56	− 0.01	0.74
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	68.71	72.66	− 1.71	2.22
Equity Trust	88.18	93.25	− 1.87	2.46
Equity Strategy	99.65	105.38	1.43	1.15
European Opps	125.70	132.40	− 0.11	0.54
UK Smaller Cos	85.07	89.75	0.80	1.07
Maximum Inc	99.94	102.54	+ 0.09	6.11
Japanese	73.30	77.52	+ 0.36	
Asia Pacific	126.30	133.56	+ 2.73	0.49
American	167.40	177.03	+ 1.58	
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	34.36	34.36	+ 0.03	5.38
UK Eq Gwth Inc	70.88	75.33	− 1.58	3.00
-do- Accum	95.91	102.23	− 2.13	3.00
Intl Income	336.53	358.01	− 1.35	1.42
-do- Accum	597.99	636.14	− 2.40	1.42
European	123.74	131.21	+ 0.79	1.35
Japan	60.28	62.86	− 0.72	0.19
American	121.10	127.95	+ 0.46	1.17
Far East Tact	91.49	97.59	− 2.46	1.38
Ethical Inc	43.07	46.05	− 0.82	1.56
UK Blue Chip Inc	45.78	42.90	− 0.93	3.38
UK Equity Inc	46.65	43.96†	− 0.90	4.17
UK Global Inc	54.50	52.59	− 0.57	1.86
Wwide Tact	96.06	102.33	+ 0.19	1.01
Europe Tactical	26.22	27.77†	+ 1.43	0.98
Technology	175.22	186.16	+ 2.33	0.71
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	564.40	601.20	−13.50	2.02
American	412.90	437.20	+ 4.10	0.16
Pacific	418.50	447.60	+ 3.00	0.09
European	781.00	835.30	− 3.00	0.55
Worldwide	113.60	120.90	+ 0.40	0.79
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	373.10	397.00	− 8.40	2.07
-do- Accum	500.50	532.00	−11.30	2.07
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	297.70	316.70	− 2.00	1.43
-do- Accum	309.70	331.40	− 3.30	1.43
Select Opptny Inc	95.46	101.53	− 3.00	1.74
Income Plus Inc	94.75	100.60	− 2.40	2.69
European Inc	532.20	566.80	+ 6.30	0.76
-do- Accum	614.50	653.70	+ 7.90	0.76
Far Eastern Inc	189.90	201.00	+ 5.90	0.91
-do- Accum	219.70	233.80	+ 6.30	0.91
Japanese Inc	57.71	61.46	− 0.52	
Nth American Inc	467.51	497.70	+ 6.40	0.34
-do- Accum	451.60	479.30	+ 7.10	0.34
Intl Growth Inc	260.70	276.50	+ 2.30	0.40
Wwide Venture Inc	109.90	117.00	+ 3.70	0.43
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT				
0131 668 3724				
Equity Inc	502.70	527.00	− 7.20	2.37
-do- Accum	775.50	813.40	−11.20	2.37
UK High Inc	242.30	256.50	− 4.40	2.33

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
-do- Accum	380.10	401.60	4.90	2.38
Europe Inc	571.80	603.90	9.10	0.32
Nth Amer Inc	379.60	401.10	4.40	..
Global Inc	292.10	308.60	0.60	0.17
Global Acc	318.00	333.90	0.70	0.17
UK Spec Sits Inc	147.80	156.10	3.00	1.78
South East Asia	223.80	236.30	2.30	0.14
Cash Trust Inc	100.20	100.20	0.10	5.72
UK Smlr Cos Inc	126.90	134.00	1.70	1.76
-do- Accum	134.30	141.90	1.70	1.76
Intl Bond Inc	89.70	94.25	0.74	4.63
International Spl	89.21	94.48	0.45	
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277				
European	188.60	198.50	0.10	0.37
Nth American	164.40	173.00	0.90	...
Intl Bond & Cmdy	129.30	136.18†	1.80	6.39
Pooled Pension	261.90	281.50†	1.80	1.58
Smaller Cos	122.26	128.80†	3.20	0.89
UK General #	185.00	194.70†	1.20	2.34
Far Eastern	91.97	96.81	1.08	0.19
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 6226				
Continental	105.10	112.10	20	0.84
Global Gwth	89.25	94.41	79	1.07
Inv Tst Port	62.82	66.82	54	2.29
Managed	1496.30	1564.72	18	1.48
Pref Inc #	108.20	115.18	60	5.86
Smaller Cos	292.40	311.00	50	0.80
Inland SIB Recognised				
UK Equity Inc ‡	105.93	..	53	4.68
Sterling Reserve ‡	101.22	..	10	5.24
Corporate Inc ‡	101.02	..	20	5.21
Tal Pan ‡	121.14	..	50	
Aztec ‡	88.88	..	20	
Amer Gth Fund ‡	157.59	..	10	
European ‡	150.79	..	40	
Global Bond ‡	88.18	..	47	7.03
Samurai ‡	55.91	..	37	
UK Growth ‡	115.79	..	32	2.61
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	103.19	..	55	3.09
Investment Trust ‡	122.28	..	02	2.20
The Football Fd ‡	90.38	..	92	
Reserve Roll Up ‡	58.14	..	03	
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	485.60	514.00	60	..
Capital	162.10	171.40	40	1.19
Cash	101.18	101.18	00	5.81
European	194.70	202.70†	80	0.28
Far Eastern	171.60	181.60	30	..
Growth	186.70	197.50	50	1.37
Income #	149.70	158.40	40	5.04
Magnolia	167.90	177.50†	40	1.43
Smllr Secs	628.60	656.70	90	0.12
Thoroughbred	198.50	210.00	20	1.29
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01202 435000				
Capital Prince	58.81	62.66	15	7.00
Ethical	87.23	93.29	20	1.07
European Growth	95.72	101.50†	00	0.03
Income	67.65	71.71	00	3.74
Intl Growth	125.40	132.90†	10	0.06
Managed	106.50	112.60	00	6.39
UK Growth	85.67	91.62	12	1.98
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	51.93	52.19	0	1.16
Global Advtg Acc	36.76	37.05	0	1.16
Income Advtg Inc	38.61	39.81†	1	3.95
Income Advtg Acc	47.55	47.79	1	3.95
UK Equity Gth Acc	114.60	121.50	1	1.44
Premier Inc Inc	50.97	51.93†	0	6.94
Premier Inc Acc	56.94	58.08	0	6.94
Managed Acc	71.46	75.75	0	1.82
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	45.13	48.90	0	4.15
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	62.52	66.26	1	4.15
UK Smlr Cos Acc	49.27	52.23	0	0.40
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	90.98	96.57	2	1.88
UK Equity Gen Inc	64.64	68.69	1	1.88
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	32.76	34.65	0	6.43
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	406.90	441.50	+ 1	1.69
Nth American Acc	69.86	74.23	+ 1	0.01
Pacific Basin	46.28	49.18	+ 0	0.51
European Acc	68.45	72.73	+ 0	0.30
Japan Acc	28.40	28.06	− 0	0.57
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7000				
Global A (NZ$)	5.146	5.466	+ 0	1.71
US Eqts (US$)	4.295	4.552	+ 0	0.65
Far East Eqts (yen)	281.10	298.60	+ 7	
FT Europe	178.00	189.00	− 1	1.04
FT N Amer (US$)	3.332	3.534	+ 0	
FT Japan (yen)	202.00	213.20	+ 3	
FT Asia Ex-Jap (US$)	3.090	3.283	+ 0	0.97
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	570.40	603.50	+ 6	
British #	1393.70	1474.50	−35	3.02
Emrging Mkts	199.50	212.30	+ 0	0.42
Euro Small Co	66.24	70.54	− 0	0.56
Japan	121.10	128.40	− 1	
New Pacific	457.00	487.90	+ 7	1.13
-do- Accum	498.30	529.90	+ 7	1.13
Inv Trust Acc	326.00	345.50	− 5	1.13
Mngd Equity	224.80	237.80	− 1	1.80
Mngd Cash	96.33	96.33	+ 0	5.82
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 389				
Equity	1237.00	1322.00	−35.00	1.66
North America	225.70	240.60	+ 3.00	..
Far East	169.60	181.30	+ 5.30	..
Wwide Bond	53.93	58.34	− 0.33	5.64
European	174.70	186.80	− 0.20	0.17
Equity Income #	125.20	133.90†	− 3.30	4.31
Portfolio	128.10	137.00	− 0.90	..
UK Leading Cos	84.42	90.70†	− 2.40	2.04
High Inc Bond	50.95	51.03†	− 0.21	6.24
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	82.98	88.75	+ 0.22	.
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Acumen UT	25.11	26.72	+ 0.62	0.71
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	100.90	107.35	− 0.43	6.72
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	108.52	115.45	− 0.45	6.72
European	61.12	65.03	+ 0.02	0.59
High Income	39.01	41.50	− 0.32	3.57
Japan	34.70	36.92	− 0.14	0.01
Managed Assets	161.83	172.07	− 1.74	2.36
North American	55.69	59.25	+ 0.27	0.05
Smlr Co's Inc	38.24	40.69†	− 0.35	1.88
Smlr Co's Acc	42.38	45.09	− 0.39	1.89
UK Growth Inc	73.98	78.71	− 1.48	1.89
UK Growth Acc	84.52	89.92	− 1.70	1.89
UK Income	50.57	54.69†	− 1.31	2.81
Worldwide Gth	47.52	50.83	+ 0.19	0.14
SLC Pensions Funds				
Asian & Oceanic Ex	34.37	35.44	+ 0.92	1.21
European Exempt	118.05	121.71	− 0.17	1.27
Japan Exempt	29.79	30.72	− 0.24	0.05
US Exempt	113.56	117.08	+ 0.59	1.02
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	61.88	65.83	− 0	.
Cap Protector Inc	56.15	59.73	− 1	2.87
UK Income Inc	70.30	74.79	− 1	2.49
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	37.30	39.50	− 0	6.53
Mngd High Yld Inc	100.53	105.95†	− 2	3.49
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	98.77	105.07†	− 2	2.71
UK Smaller Cos	42.97	45.71	− 0	0.21
Pacific Gth Port	54.95	58.46	+ 3	0.17
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 346 794				
American	362.93	384.05	+ 91	
-do- Accum	399.74	423.01	+ 51	
Brit Growth	139.28	147.39	− 64	1.32
-do- Accum	175.49	185.70	− 50	1.32
European	150.89	159.68	+ 19	
-do- Accum	161.17	170.55	+ 26	
Extra Income #	237.31	251.13	− 35	4.38
-do- Accum #	443.42	469.23	− 87	4.38
Smaller Cos	94.13	99.61	− 10	0.81
-do- Accum	108.19	114.48	− 27	0.81
General	406.24	429.89	− 89	1.63
-do- Accum	875.62	926.58	− 32	1.63
Premier Income	53.00	55.21	− 32	6.78
-do- Accum	137.50	143.23	− 82	6.76
Income #	428.36	453.29†	− 44	3.33
-do- Accum #	1023.60	1083.17†	− 32	3.33
Pacific	403.03	426.49†	+ 18	0.14
-do- Accum	423.48	448.13†	+ 54	0.14
International	712.82	754.30	− 80	0.06
-do- Accum	941.93	996.76	− 71	0.06
Nat Resources	167.17	176.90	− 36	0.36
Sictal Opps	145.82	154.41	− 17	0.88
-do- Accum	193.08	204.32	+ 19	0.98
Environmental Inv	94.23	99.71	− 13	0.66
Selector	84.47	89.39†	− 33	1.28
-do- Accum	99.22	105.00†	− 40	1.28
High Income #	76.60	81.05†	− 70	4.31
-do- Accum #	108.60	114.92†	− 68	4.31
Intl Income	62.90	66.56	− 63	4.49
-do- Accum	85.47	90.44	− 86	4.49
Selector Income	72.43	76.65	− 97	4.11
-do- Accum	93.69	99.15	− 55	4.11
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0181 687 1018				
British	470.07	494.81	− 68	2.32
European	91.75	96.08†	+ 00	1.33
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	267.78	283.36	+ 87	2.51
Glob Balncd Inc	218.94	231.68	+ 40	3.31
Value Tst Inc	165.06	174.67†	+ 09	2.37
THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	99.55	105.90	− 50	0.50
International	79.65	84.73	+ 35	
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	39.79	41.38	− 25	6.38
European Growth	405.73	424.84	+ 33	0.83
Exempt	760.07	793.54	− 86	2.90
Global Em Mkts	98.42	103.05	+ 87	0.45
Japan Fd	78.54	82.24†	− 80	
Little Dragons	132.61	138.85†	+ 33	
Nth Amer Gwth	365.74	382.97	+ 86	0.42
Oriental Income #	51.15	53.56	+ 64	3.48
Preference	136.89	143.31	− 87	8.73
Tiger	313.87	328.65†	+ 74	
UK Blue Chip	92.93	97.30	− 72	1.55
UK Growth	761.51	797.30	− 19	0.84
UK High Yield #	131.08	137.25	− 39	5.01
UK Mid-Cap	356.99	372.76	− 07	1.61
UK Smllr Cos	145.37	152.21	− 86	0.67
UK Srch Cos Dw #	97.75	102.35	+ 94	5.37
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 336				
UK Equity Income #	130.83	139.18	− 31	4.49
UK Equity Growth	118.38	125.92	− 30	2.53
European	90.57	96.35	+ 04	1.14
Nth American	103.94	110.57	+ 06	0.10
Far Eastern	83.51	88.84†	+ 07	0.64
Money	73.72	73.72	+ 06	4.71
Fixed Interest #	84.52	89.91	− 01	7.62
Index Linked Gilt	74.25	78.98	− 03	1.27
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 959595				
Income Trust	107.27	107.27	− 05	6.64
Pens Growth	115.10	115.10†	− 28	
Pens Inc Protec	105.69	105.69†	− 08	
UK Index Tracking (5)	147.88	147.88	− 53	2.62
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0131 631 7455				
Australasian Gold	23.39	24.62	− 29	
Pacific Basin	44.52	46.86†	+ 02	
Global Bond (US$)	0.9264	0.9650†	+ 01	
Penny Share	46.51	48.96†	− 03	
Japan Smlr Cos	38.96	41.01	+ 07	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Short Dtd Gilt	127.60	128.30		
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.8013	0.8098	+ 0	
Gilt Income	51.63	52.43†	− 0	6.20
Gilt Growth	81.10	82.45	− 0	
Sterling Bond	49.83	58.67†	− 0	6.70
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	63.40	67.26	− 0	1.76
UK Dividends	115.10	122.20	− 4	2.30
Corporate Bd Inc	49.99	50.08	− 0	6.14
Do Accum	52.91	53.01	− 0	6.14

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); ‡ Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; .. No significant data; # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; † Exit Charge.

3

هدى امين الاول

Sharp losses at the close

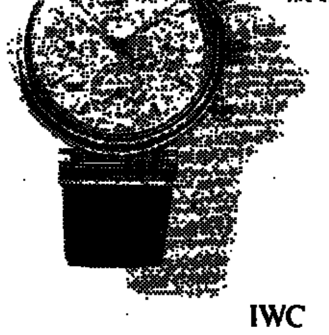
TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
469	407½	Allied Domecq†	421	- 7	7.0	12.6
636	500½	Bulmer (HP)	505½	- 6½	3.4	15.0
75½	53½	Burn Stewart	57	- 1½	7.5	14.2
1048	865	Glenmorangie A	987½		1.7	24.2
613	425½	Grand Met	590	- 13½	3.5	18.7
675½	424	Guinness	593	- 12	3.4	16.9
369	321½	Highland Dist	358½		3.2	15.4
306	235	Matthew Clark	252½		11.9	12.1
109½	78½	Merrydown W	79½	- 1½	8.2	9.5
1978¾	1462½	SA Breweries†	1790½	+ 6¼	2.2	

BANKS

1997 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
4709½	3677½	ABN-AMRO	4275	- 34½	3.1	
971	710	Abbey Nat	804½	- 27½	4.1	14.2
655	532½	Alliance & Leic	603	+ 4	3.4	14.8
481½	388½	Allied Irish	466½	- 3½	3.7	13.1
450½	367½	Aus New Z	448½	+ 3	4.2	
4159¾	2875	Bank America	4159½	+ 68½		
429½	291½	Bank Scotland†	374½	- 12	2.7	11.4
1299	978½	Barclays	1163½	- 37½	3.4	11.8
703½	517½	Bk of Ireland	656	+ 2½	3.2	
7890½	6009½	Citicorp	7525	+ 200		
1759½	1269½	Commerzbk	1709½		2.8	
862½	569½	Dai Ichi Kan Y	743½	- 9½	0.6	
3600	2709½	Deutsche Bk	3450	- 37½	1.8	
1131½	758½	Espirito Santo	1118½	- 6½	3.3	
911½	594½	Fuji Bank Y	872½	- 11½	0.5	
1944½	1272½	HSBC	1868½	+ 11	2.8	16.1
1869½	1241	HSBC HK	1797½	+ 17½	2.9	15.6
782	714	Halifax	770	+ 25	2.4	23.0
610	483½	Irish Perm	560	- 5	2.9	
667	424	Lloyds TSB	608½	- 11½	2.7	19.7
888½	669½	Nat Aust Bk	860½	+ 5½	4.7	11.8
844½	663½	Nat West	746½	- 5	4.9	11.2
357½	316½	Norwich Union	324½		4.1	16.9
663½	508	Ryl Bk Scott	574½	- 19	4.2	12.4
1046	681	Stand Chart	875½	- 24	2.1	15.7
£164½	£164½	Wells Fargo	£164½		1.9	
374½	315½	Westpac	365½	+ 8½	4.1	



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GOLF: SPANIARD WITH HAMPSHIRE CONNECTIONS LEADS AFTER TWO ROUNDS OF GERMAN OPEN

Garrido on course to emulate father

FROM JOHN HOPKINS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN STUTTGART

GOLF is a game that bestows its favours without rhyme or reason. It is giving them to Ignacio Garrido, a charming Spaniard who is leading the Volvo German Open after 36 holes and will surely become a Ryder Cup player some day, as his father was before him.

At the same time, it is taking them away from Steven Richardson, a Ryder Cup player in 1991 who is now in a trough of great depth, having missed the halfway cut in every event he has entered this season.

Of course, it is easy to be engaging and talkative when you have just gone round in 67, are ten under par, leading by two strokes and obviously playing well. There were few blemishes on the card of Garrido, who holed at least three putts of nine feet or more. At .25, he is thinking more about improving his game still further rather than getting into this year's Ryder Cup team. "I want to become more consistent," he said. "I do not like missing cuts. If I play well and am in the top ten [of the Ryder Cup points table] so be it. It will be because I am well prepared."

Scores 55

Garrido understands and speaks English as well as he reads the borrows and undulations of a green. Explaining that Antonio, his father, and German, his uncle, both help him with his swing, he said: "They are the same, my father and my uncle. They are the same person in different bodies."

The reason for his good English is that, from the age of ten until he was 17, he was sent each summer to stay with families in Alton, Hampshire. "It was hard at first," Garrido said. "I did not speak a word of English and the first time I came I was asked about my pyjamas and I had not a clue what they were talking about.

"My father was very cruel. I was not allowed to bring my golf clubs. It was done purely to improve my English." The affinity he felt for England was enhanced when, as a promising amateur, he ran away with the 1992 Brabazon Trophy at Hollinwell, winning by nine strokes.

There is more of a link between Garrido and Richardson than is immediately obvious. When Garrido was having his month's English practice in Hampshire, he was only a few miles from where Richardson lived in Lee-on-Solent.

Richardson's career blossomed before Garrido's. He won the English amateur championship in 1989 and, after turning professional, quickly got into the Ryder Cup team. However, now, at the age of 30, the gift for the game having left him, he cuts a forlorn figure. He had an 80 yesterday, thus making sure that he missed his fifteenth consecutive cut.

He is playing as if he does not know what is going on for much of the time and he sounds as though he would rather be doing something else. "I'm struggling big time," Richardson said. "There is no pattern to my game."

An example of how difficult Richardson is finding the game came on the 9th, his 18th, where he had a simple pitch to the green. He hit it much too hard, as if it was into a wind or he had a bunker to clear, and the ball ran past the flag and off the green. An amateur would have been disappointed.

"I hit it well in practice," Richardson said, "but I just can't do it on the course. I am trying to get more width in my swing, but I seem still to be too narrow. When this happens, I hit the ball left and right. My putting is not very good and there is a lot of pressure on it because I am playing so badly. I am finding it tough. It is pretty stressful."

☐ Brian Rimmer made light of appalling weather conditions to win the Glenmuir PGA club professionals championship by eight strokes at Northop Country Park yesterday. A final round of 66 gave him a four-round total of 268, a record for the event.

Payne follows the flight of an iron shot during his second round of 71 that kept him well in contention

Nicholas leads after erratic round

FROM PATRICIA DAVIES
IN EVIAN, FRANCE

ALISON NICHOLAS, a tiny tot who packs a big punch, produced a topsy-turvy third successive round of 68, four under par, at the Royal Club Evian yesterday to lead the Evian Masters by one shot from Hiromi Kobayashi, a cheerful Japanese on her first visit to France. Joanne Morley, of England, was three shots behind in third place, on 208, eight under par, after an out-of-touch 74.

Nicholas, one of Europe's Solheim Cup stalwarts, 5ft tall if she stands up straight in her golf spikes, tends towards the consistent, so a round of eight birdies and four bogeys on a calm, sunny day was a little abnormal. She had a solitary par — at the 4th — on the front nine, bogeys at the 1st and 6th, both the result of three-putts, and birdies everywhere else. The Englishwoman gives the ball a good clout and reached both the par fives, the 7th and 9th, in two blows.

She dropped further shots at the 10th and 14th, but came home in 36, level par, thanks to birdies at the 11th and 18th, where she got up and down after her second shot ran into the bunker behind the green. The ten-foot putt Nicholas sank there kept her ahead of Kobayashi, whose 69 was altogether simpler, featuring four birdies and a "pretty good bogey" — at the par five 15th — where she took two to get out of a greenside bunker and holed from "three yards" for her six.

At 5ft 7in, Kobayashi, sporting a natty pair of red-and-white striped socks, towered over her English playing partners, Nicholas and Morley, who is 5ft 4in. Now 34, she won nine times in Japan before setting off for America "to try my ability and see another country and what's going on". It took her three or four years to settle — she won twice in 1993, her fourth season — but now says: "I am completely comfortable." Unlike most Japanese players, she prattles away quite happily in English without an interpreter in sight.

It was another day of putting frustration for Laura Davies, who also drove out of bounds at the 9th. She hit 16 greens in regulation in a round of 70 that included four birdies, but even a new putter — an aluminium and copper ROHO plucked from the Taylor Made van yesterday morning — and a quick lesson from Lisa Hackney did not make the world No 2 happy. Asked if Hackney had spotted anything wrong, Davies replied gloomily: "Everything."

By contrast, Trish Johnson, a streak putter par excellence, eventually got everything right on the greens, finishing with five straight birdies for a round of 67. It was a flush that earned her a tidy sum from Karen Lunn, her playing partner, since there was a tenner for every birdie.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Doohan intends to carry on racing

MICHAEL DOOHAN, three times the motorcycle 500cc world champion, has confirmed that he is not yet ready to retire. The Honda rider, who holds a massive lead in the riders' championship again this season, had previously hinted that this could be his last campaign. However, he said yesterday that he might yet stay with Honda, the sport's dominant team of recent years, but would also listen to offers from rival teams for 1998.

He now intends to make a decision about his future after the San Marino Grand Prix, at Imola on July 6. "At the moment, I have no idea what I would do when I stop racing, so I guess that means I'm not ready to stop racing," Doohan said. "I'm still enjoying the racing and I'm still winning grands prix. As soon as I stop enjoying it, I'll be out of here."

Morbidelli operation

MOTOR RACING: Gianni Morbidelli, the Italian Formula One driver, underwent an operation on his shattered left forearm in Paris yesterday after crashing during testing at the Magny Cours circuit. Morbidelli hit a safety barrier at 140mph on Thursday while practising for the French Grand Prix. Norberto Fontana, of Argentina, will take his place in the Sauber team for the race next Sunday.

Edwards can qualify

ATHLETICS: The High Court yesterday reserved judgment until Monday on a bid by Paul Edwards, the shot putter, to lift a four-year suspension from competition in time for him to qualify for the world championships in Athens in August. The ban was imposed by the International Amateur Athletic Federation after Edwards failed two drugs tests in August, 1994.

International field

ROWING: Leading women's crews from Europe, North America, South Africa and Australia will compete in the tenth Henley Women's Regatta this weekend. Special events include an international university race which has attracted Purdue University, from Indianapolis, and Melbourne University. Thames/Queen's Tower are favourites in the open eights, while Neptune defend the club eights.

Claymores lose leader

AMERICAN FOOTBALL: Michael Keller has resigned as general manager of Scottish Claymores after two years in charge. "The time has come for me to pursue opportunities back in America," he said. "My two seasons with the Claymores have been memorable." Keller helped turn a team that lost eight of ten games in their inaugural 1995 season into World Bowl-winners last year.

Bears face extinction

BASKETBALL: Worthing Bears, the Budweiser League club, may go out of business unless a sponsor can be found by mid-July. The Bears, who won three consecutive Wembley championship play-off titles from 1993, have refused the terms of a £25,000 grant from Worthing Borough Council and now must find alternative funding before preparations begin for next season.

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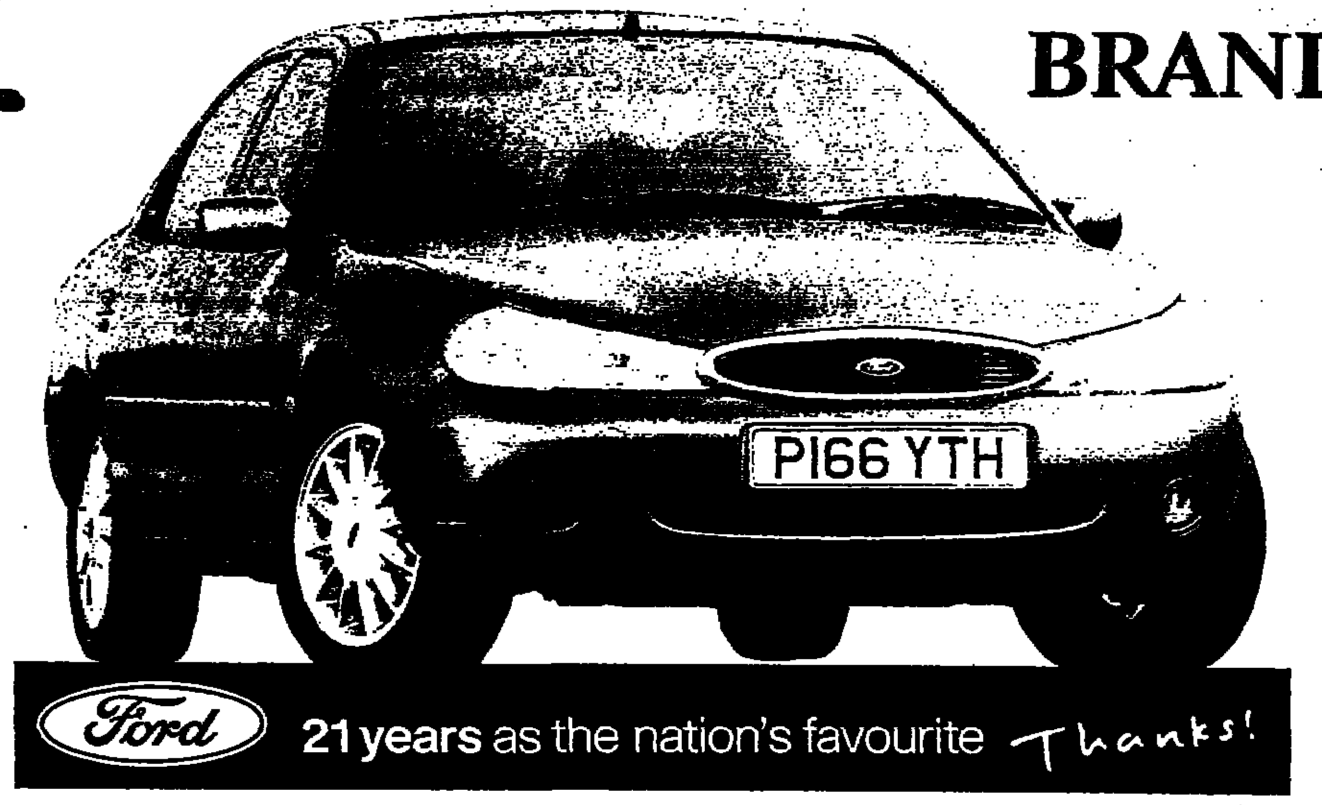

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	Most likely to consider	Second most likely to consider	Would consider	Would not consider
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Vauxhall	☐	☐	☐	☐
Rover	☐	☐	☐	☐
Other	☐	☐	☐	☐

Other — please specify make ....
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CHANGING TIMES

هكذا من الاصل

هذا من الاصل

Bringing first aid to the most dangerous game

Rob Hughes meets the track marshals who accept their share of the risks in Formula One

The instant Olivier Panis became a casualty at the Canadian Grand Prix last Sunday, entrapped by his broken legs in the wreckage of his Formula One car, he drew others into his peril. The difference between Panis, one of motor racing's millionaires, and the track marshals leaping over fences and down banks to rescue him is that they get nothing for sharing his risk.

Moreover, though they are not doctors, in the few moments before the safety car is on the track, moments in which other drivers are trying to avoid the stricken car at 150mph, those marshals have to take decisions that could determine whether the likes of Panis might walk again.

It is a fearful, often thankless task, yet the volunteers queue up to do it, they effectively *pay* for the privilege. With the British Grand Prix at Silverstone three weeks from now, the hundreds of track marshals in Britain, who serve as many as 50 to 60 meetings per year, are also giving their free time to travel to circuits to hone their skills. More than 20 of them gathered at Donington Park on Wednesday and they were critical of their colleagues in Canada, every man and woman of them convinced that when the marshals in Montreal dragged Panis out of his cockpit before the doctor, Professor Sidney Watkins, had arrived at the scene, they could not have known if Panis had suffered a spinal injury.

"There is a myth about cars bursting into flames." David Pierre, one of the leading rescue marshals in Britain and the man who trains many more, commented. "Years ago, it was more prevalent. Now, particularly with an accident such as Panis's, where he had struck the wall front first, that risk was very slim indeed. I would have taken the decision that, within his driving seat, he had better support for his back and they should not have extricated him until the doctor arrived." However, proving that rescue can never be an exact science, the Canadians also got it in the neck from commentators and observers who felt they were interminably slow in getting to the casualty.

If one has not been in such a situation, *how can one judge?* Pierre stressed: "One of the first priorities is never to let the marshals go in and add to the casualty by putting themselves at great risk. There is, obviously, vulnerability, you accept that, but when you know what you are doing it is like the situation of trying to rescue a drowning man — you only go in to a depth that you can be of use."

The marshals in England are equipped with a Ked back support, which can be strapped to the driver while he is still in the cockpit and, supporting him from the head to the base of the spine, can then be used to haul him vertically from his seat. In Canada, Panis was dragged alarmingly soon out of his car. Even though British marshals are insured by the RAC for injury or for liability, the volunteers deemed their colleagues in Montreal to have been too hasty, to have forgotten what amounts to the medical oath — do no harm.

They are impressive people. The two dozen who congregated at Donington, each of whom will be at the British Grand Prix at Silverstone next month, included a bank finance negotiator, a computer programmer, a logistics analyst and some building workers. Their marshals club, one of four in Britain, has no social bounds — indeed, while one of their number recently sold his business for £14 million, another is on the dole.

They are unpaid, but woe betide anyone who deems them amateurish. For the British Grand Prix, each marshal will receive £20 for the four-day meeting; they will have paid £56 for overalls that do not begin to compare to the flame-resistant clothing of the drivers. They pay their own petrol, a £12 entry fee to join the club and although Bernie Ecclestone talks of floating the grand prix circus for £2 billion, no one buys a meal, not even a sandwich, for these essential first aiders.

They feed on the same thing that drives Michael Schumacher and company — adrenaline. Pierre, who is employed by an American company based in Birmingham, travels the world monitoring rescue operations, passing on expertise that he believes makes British marshals the best in the world.

He is addicted at the highest level to organisation and rapid response on the track. "I have two basic rules — stay and play, or scoop and run. By that I mean if you've assessed the danger and the driver in his seat is not at imminent risk of being hit by another vehicle, if he is breathing, then you keep him talking and start preparing for what the doctor needs from you. You scoop and run only if it's so critical that you have to get the driver out, and take the consequences that, in doing so, you might contribute to him becoming a paraplegic or worse."

At Silverstone, they say, the marshals have the time of their lives, living under canvas, in their own tents, during the British Grand Prix meeting. They pay for it, for this social pleasure, for the bonding and mutual trust that grows between them, in more than a financial sense. Pierre and seven others have undergone counselling training to help deal with colleagues who become traumatised at the cutting edge of motor racing's dangerous game.

TIMOTHY E. BLACK

Panis is taken away on a stretcher in Montreal. The marshals have been criticised for the way they handled the crash

BOWLS

Wales snatch draw in dramatic finale

By David Rhys Jones

SCOTLAND opened their defence of the British women's team title with a convincing 137-100 victory over Ireland at Ayr Northfield yesterday, while England had to settle for a 113-113 tie with Wales.

Having made eight changes from last year's side, the English selectors looked glum when a fiery Welsh team raced to a 24-shot lead by the half-way stage. A remarkable recovery saw the experimental England line-up take a slender lead by the fifteenth end and they seemed poised to win when they led by five shots with one end to play.

Judith Wason, the Welsh skip, perked up when her opposite number, Doreen Hankin, pushed the jack into the open with her first bowl and gave Wales a chance of a big count. Hankin calmly drew the shot with her second delivery, but Wason earned the day's biggest cheer when she took out the English shot as clean as a whistle for a count of five.

The tie came as a relief for both teams and kept their hopes alive, although the Scots remain firm favourites to retain their title on home ground after their convincing defeat of Ireland. Their top scorer, Roberta Hutchison led the way with a 28-9 win over Maureen Fearon, while Sarah Gourlay defeated Chrissie O'Gorman 24-11. Liz Dickson and Joyce Lindores also won.

RESULTS: England 113 Wales 113 (England skips first: N Shaw lost to B Morgan 17-20; M Steele lost to C Morgan 19-22; W Line bt A Dainton 22-21; M Price bt G Miles 20-17; D Hankin lost to J Wason 18-23; S Page bt R Jones 17-10); Scotland 137 Ireland 100 (Scotland skips first: R Hutchison bt M Fearon 28-9; J Lindores bt M Johnston 20-19; S Gourley bt C O'Gorman 24-11; I Bennett lost to P Nolan 19-24; D Barr lost to P Macdonagh 23-24; L Dickson bt J Mulholland 23-13)

GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

Today

CRICKET

Second Cornhill Test match
11.0, third day of five, 90 overs minimum
LORD'S: England v Australia

Britannic Assurance county championship
11.0, final day of four, 96 overs minimum
DERBY: Derbyshire v Sussex
DARLINGTON: Durham v Kent
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Middlesex
LIVERPOOL: Lancashire v Glamorgan
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Hampshire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire
BATH: Somerset v Leicestershire
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Surrey

University match
11.30, second day of three
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Oxford University

RUGBY LEAGUE

Super League
Visa world club championship
Pool B
North Queensland v Salford (10.30am)
Paris v Perth (7.0)

SOUTHERN CONFERENCE: Bedford Swifts v Birmingham; North London v Worcester Royals; Kingston v Ipswich Rhinos; Oxford Cavaliers v Leicester; West London v Cambridge Eagles

RUGBY UNION

International match
South Africa v British Isles (Newlands, Cape Town, 4.15)

REPRESENTATIVE MATCH: Kent v Cornwall (the Heath, Blackheath, 3.30).

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: European Cup (Munich). International match: Ireland v England (Cork).

BOXING: International Boxing Federation Inter-continental super-featherweight championship: B Jones (Cardiff, holder) v L Ramirez (Dom Rep) (Star Leisure Centre, Cardiff)
GOLF: Ryder Collingtree Seniors Classic (Collingtree Park, Northampton).
ROWING: Henley women's regatta.
SPEEDWAY: Elite League: Coventry v Belle Vue (7.30); King's Lynn v Poole (7.30); Swindon v Wolverhampton (7.30). Premier League four-team championship: Qualifying round: Berwick v Glasgow v Newcastle v Edinburgh (6.30); Stoke v Hull v Long Eaton v Sheffield (7.30). Speedway Star Cup: Semi-final, first leg: Eastbourne v Bradford (7.30). Amateur League: Mildenhall v Lathallan (7.30)
TENNIS: Nottingham men's open tournament; Direct Line international women's championships (Eastbourne); Club Med Cup (Roehampton)

Tomorrow

CRICKET

Second Cornhill Test match
11.0, fourth day of five, 90 overs minimum
LORD'S: England v Australia

Axa Life League
2.0, 40 overs
DERBY: Derbyshire v Sussex
DARLINGTON: Durham v Kent
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Middlesex
OLD TRAFFORD: Lancashire v Glamorgan
NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Hampshire
TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Yorkshire
BATH: Somerset v Leicestershire
WORCESTER: Worcestershire v Surrey

University match
11.30, final day of three
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Oxford University

MCC TROPHY (one day, all 11.0): Quarter-finals: Torquay: Devon v Bedfordshire. Sherborne School: Dorset v Cambridgeshire. Grimsby: Lincolnshire v Shropshire. Jesmond: Northumberland v Norfolk.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Super League
Visa world club championship
Pool A
Brisbane v Halifax (5.30am)
Canberra v Wigan (5.30am)
St Helens v Penrith (6.35)

First division
Featherstone v Huddersfield (6.0)
Hull KR v Widnes (3.0)
Wakefield v Hull (3.30)
Whitehaven v Keighley (3.30)

Second division
Barrow v Batley (3.0)
Hunslet v Carlisle (3.30)
Leigh v Prescot (3.0)

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: European Cup (Munich).
BOWLS: Women's British championships (Ayr)
CYCLING: National 50-miles time-trial championship (Crawley, 6am). British universities road race championship (85 miles, Alcaster, 10am).
GOLF: Ryder Collingtree Seniors Classic (Collingtree Park, Northampton).
MOTORCYCLING: British superbike championship (Brands Hatch).
MOTOR RACING: Formula Three championship (Oulton Park)
ROWING: Henley women's regatta.
SPEEDWAY: World championship: Overseas final (at Bradford, 6.0). Premier League: Glasgow v Berwick (6.30), Newcastle v Stoke (6.30); Newport v Exeter (2.30). Amateur League: Buxton v St Austell (3.0).

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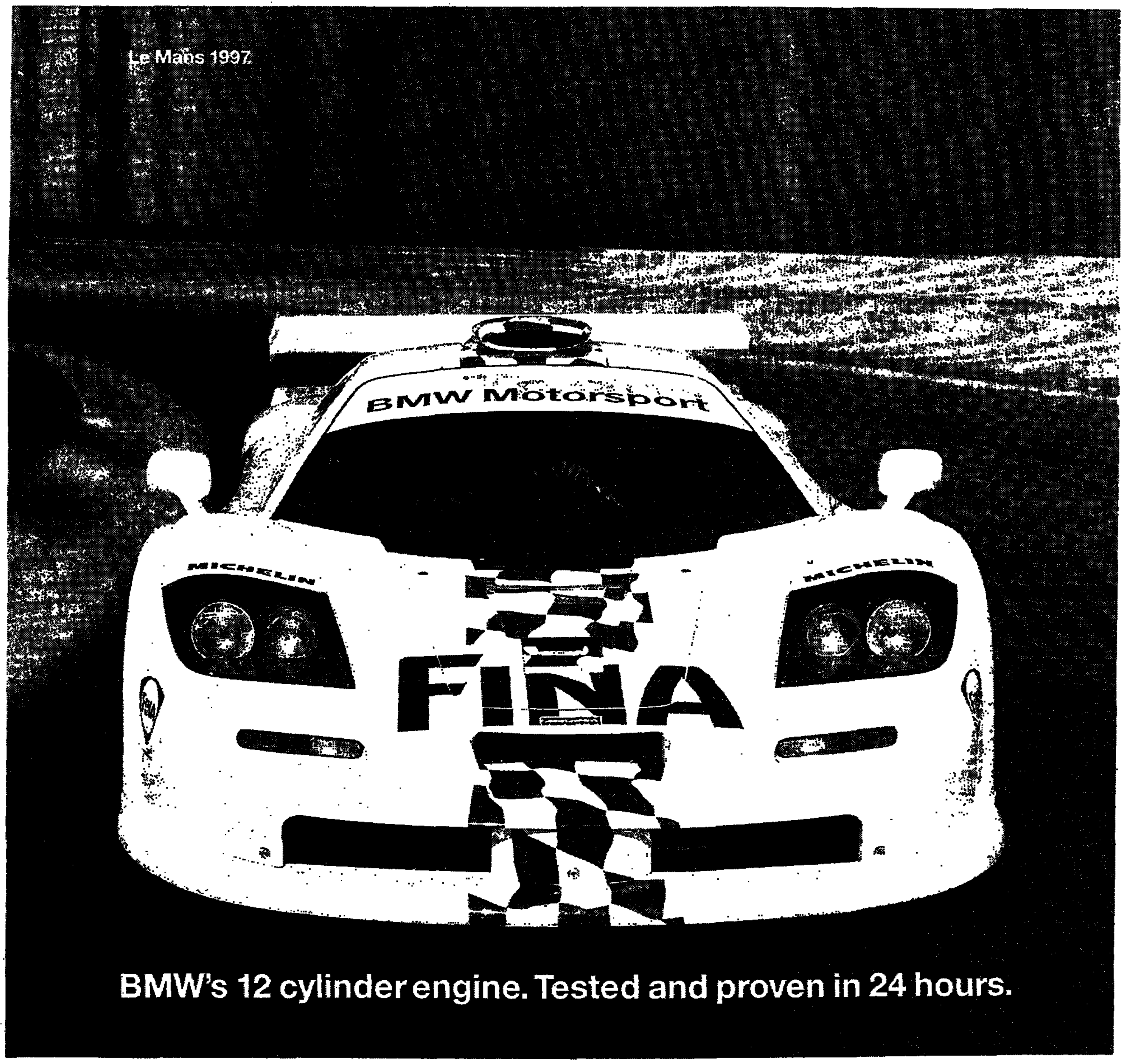

After 24 gruelling hours, the McLaren BMW F1 GTRs took 1st and 2nd place in the GT1 class at Le Mans last Sunday. The endurance of the new V12 was matched only by that of the drivers. The extraordinary release of power created by its 604bhp proved that, for BMW, winning is all in a day's work.

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RACING: AMERICAN RIDER CELEBRATES FIRST BRITISH SUCCESS IN DRAMATIC FASHION

Stevens retrieves lost cause on Predappio

Stevens gains his first British victory as Predappio, left, holds off Pilsudski in the Hardwicke Stakes. Photograph: Phil Cole/Allsport

By Chris McGrath

ROYAL ASCOT, though a definitive British occasion, is a stage for all the world. Yesterday, the weather was British all right, damnably so, but the drenched crowds had their spirits brightened, sufficient to match their vivid garb, by a dramatic success for Gary Stevens in the Hardwicke Stakes.

In Predappio, the visiting American found a partner with resources adequate to his inspirational urgings. The colt rallied to retrieve the lead — surrendered at the furlong pole — from Pilsudski, gaining a half-length verdict at the line.

ROYAL ASCOT

Stevens had doubtless wearied of a rear view of Pilsudski when he rode Singspiel into second place in the Breeders' Cup Turf last autumn. It was appropriate that he was wearing the colours of one of the sport's pioneers, Godolphin; likewise that Pilsudski was ridden by a great Irish champion in Mick Kinane, and Whitewater Affair, third, by a great French one in Olivier Peslier.

The rider of 4,000 winners, Stevens has recently savoured the best that American racing can offer, sharing heroic failure with Silver Charm in their quest for the first Triple Crown since Affirmed in 1978. But, at 34, he has discovered a yearning to enliven the last years of his career, and his brief stay has been no mere jaunt. He will return to Europe for a longer stint one day, and he has certainly made his paths straight with the racing public here.

"This definitely rates right up there with my three Kentucky Derby wins," he said. "The thrill, the fanfare, has been just great all week long, and the support I've had from the British people has just been overwhelming. I think I wanted to do it as much for them as for myself."

Stevens, who had previously ridden Ocean Ridge and Blue Goblin into second, admitted: "It was turning into a bit of of a frustrating week. Fortunately, I found a horse with a bigger heart than I've got. I thought I was beaten half a furlong out, but this horse dug down and found something else — it was just a spectacular last half-furlong."

Predappio had demonstrated that he might help the deflated Godolphin team resume normal service when running a blinder against Bosra Sham on their reappearance at Sandown. Along with that filly on the opening day, and Celeric in Wednesday's Gold Cup, Predappio was one of the lasting joys that gleamed through the meeting's summer murk.

He was completing a swift double for Saeed bin Suroor, after the Windsor Castle success of Asfurah — a change of fortune that was no more than the Godolphin team deserved, for their dignified reaction to the season's disappointments. Sheikh Mohammed said: "We just called a halt and waited. We were patient and they seemed to come back. Dick Hern told me: 'These things come and go, and you will never know'.

The stewards did their best to sour Stevens's ardour for the diversity of European racing when instructing him that the whip rules are different, too. He was suspended for two days for misuse of the whip on Danetime, beaten a nostril when finishing with a fine flourish in the Wokingham.

Nor will the blood have raced through his veins with excitement after exploring one of British racing's more eccentric nooks, the Queen Alexandra Stakes. Riding Pleasure Shared in the longest race in the calendar, he was tailed off after a furlong.

At the business end, the race was a corker, Canon Can getting the better of a long argument with Old Rouvel by a neck. The runner-up, who has been called worse than an old Rouvel, may not have taken all that much persuasion. But if his backers now feel ready for an institution, that is precisely the status of this historic race.

Record crowds herald dawn of New Ascot

By Richard Evans
Racing Correspondent

Cecil: tearful

THE heavens opened, the bookmakers had another field day as a massive gamble in the Wokingham Stakes was narrowly foiled and a French-trained winner at 33-1 added to punters' misery yesterday — but even that depressing treble could not put a damper on Royal Ascot.

Given inclement weather conditions on the last two days, it was remarkable that more people attended this year's meeting than any other Royal Ascot, stretching back to the early years of the 18th Century. On each of the four days, records were set with 54,514 spectators yesterday bringing the total to 239,787.

This is an incredible success story, especially given the sorry state of Ascot only a few years ago. Hidebound by officialdom and voted the worst course by owners, it has been transformed in three years — largely due to the efforts of Douglas Erskine-Crum, who was brought in as racecourse director.

His philosophy can be summed up in two words: customer care. The response has been dramatic and Ascot is now the model for other racecourses to follow.

As New Ascot has replaced Old Ascot, Old BBC has given way to New BBC. The corporation's televised racing coverage had become staid, which prompted criticism. The BBC took note and its coverage over the four days was a revelation.

A new executive producer, Malcolm Kemp, was brought in to revamp the output. His promise on the eve of the royal meeting of a lighter touch was achieved without having to resort to gimmicks.

A new 30-minute preview programme got off to a shaky start but gradually improved, although a starting time of 9am would be preferable to 11.35am.

Early viewing figures suggest that the efforts of the BBC have been appreciated. On the first three days, BBC1 figures were up by as much as a third.

The sight of Bosra Sham powering away from her rivals in the Prince Of Wales's Stakes and Celeric's stirring victory in the Gold Cup deserve special mention. Even yesterday, emotions ran high as Kingfisher Mill won the King Edward VII Stakes in tremendous style and left Lord Howard de Walden and Julie Cecil, the colt's owner and trainer, in tears.

Several professional backers were reduced to the same state when presumed bankers Cape Verdi and Sleepytime were defeated. At least they can try and recoup losses by going for the Tote Jackpot, which is expected to top £400,000 today.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: BISHOPS COURT
(2.30 Ascot)

Next best: Winter Romance
(3.35 Ascot)

Richard Evans finished Royal Ascot on a high note yesterday by napping Kingfisher Mill (9-4) and also selecting Asfurah (7-1).

Bishops Court to show way in competitive sprint

ASCOT
BBC1

2.00: Henry Cecil is in good form this term with his fillies and is represented here by Selfish, who failed narrowly to contain Wasp Ranger at Goodwood. Brave Kris was quite a handful in the paddock at Newmarket last time before winning in taking style from Supply And Demand, who boosted the form by winning next time out. Provided she does not boil over beforehand, Luca Cumani's well-drawn runner is definitely one for the shortlist. However, I just prefer **Kalinka**, who did particularly well from an unfavourable draw at York last month, making up a lot of ground in the straight. Paul Cole's runner is another who should appreciate this surface.

2.30: The David Barron-trained Polish Warrior should be spot on now after running a race full of promise behind the talented Blue Goblin at Newmarket. Sabina lost any chance at Chester last time when slowly away and did well to finish so close to the winner. However, **Bishops Court** is going to take all the beating from a good draw now that the Lynda Ramsden-trained runner is reverting to arguably his best trip, a stiff five furlongs. He did well to overome a moderate draw at York last Saturday, but just failed to get home in a fast-run race, won by Return Of Amin from Double Action. The form was boosted when Double Action won earlier this week.

TODAY'S RACING ON TELEVISION

3.00: Only five runners but still a puzzle as at least three — Falak, Conon Falls and Monza — should show improved form on their first attempt over this longer trip. Monza has been highly tried this term, taking on the likes of Benny The Dip and Desert Story, so this represents a drop in class.

The John Gosden-trained Conon Falls showed his liking for soft ground when winning at Chester and was far from disgraced in better company behind Grapeshot at Goodwood. However, preference is for **Falak**, who has progressed with every run. Dick Hern's representative did particularly well to beat a useful field at Doncaster last time, having previously chased home Royal Amaretto at Newbury. The Diesis colt, out of a Sadler's Wells mare, should relish the going and trip.

3.35: The soft ground could be the key here and **Winter Romance** looks sure to run well despite his big weight. The Cadeaux Genereux colt put a disappointing reappearance behind him when fourth to Centre Stalls in a fast-run race at York and today's surface and extra quarter-mile should be ideal. Star Manager was a close second at Epsom and Arctiid showed up well for a long way on his seasonal reappearance at Kempton. Wafir, a winner on the soft at Ripon last year, is decently treated at the weights. Docklands Limo was given a poor ride in the Bessborough here on Wednesday and deserves respect.

Richard Evans

ASCOT

THUNDERER

2.00 Atlantic Desire
2.30 Sabina
3.00 Blue River
3.35 Master Beveled
4.10 **SWEET CONTRALTO** (nap)
4.40 Mighty Magic
5.10 High Five

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.00 **MONZA**.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 Selfish, 3.35 Arctiid.

GOING: SOFT — SIS
DRAW: 5F-1M STR, LOW NUMBERS BEST — TOTE JACKPOT MEETING

2.00 LONDON CLUBS FERN HILL RATED HANDICAP

BBC1

(3-Y-O fillies: £12,161: 1m str) (13)

101	(5)	1313-3	DANCING DROP 26 (F) (M Suhail) R Hannon 9-7	Dane O'Neill	95
102	(6)	515	JAFN 30 (G) (H al-Maktoum) B Hanbury 9-5	DOUBTFUL	94
103	(4)	1-625	BAKED ALASKA 15 (G) (Cliveden Stud) A Stewart 9-5	M Roberts	93
104	(10)	304-1	GIFT TOKEN 11 (D,F) (Mrs D Ellis) D Chappell 9-2	J Reid	91
105	(12)	126	FLAMBOYANCE 9 (G) (C Wills) J Fanshawe 9-0	M Hills	93
106	(11)	322	SELFISH 32 (BF) (L Marinopoulos) H Cecil 9-0	K Fallon	97
107	(2)	023-01	BRAVE KRIS 48 (D,G) (R Smith) L Cumani 9-0	L Dettori	94
108	(7)	25-522	ATLANTIC DESIRE 9 (BF,F) (Atlantic Racing) M Johnston 8-12	J Weaver	99
109	(9)	312-44	KALINKA 37 (F) (Elite Racing) P Cole 8-10	T Quinn	98
110	(1)	1214-4	ALPINE TIME 36 (F) (Cheveley Park Stud) D Loder 8-10	Pat Eddery	94
111	(13)	1060-0	MARATHON MAID 38 (B,G) (J Stephenson) R Fahey 8-3	J Quinn	90
112	(3)	010	MARIE DORA 15 (D,G) (Lord Roborough) I Balding 8-7	R Cochrane	95
113	(8)	35-160	SUMMER QUEEN 35 (G) (A Ali) S Woods 8-7	W Ryan	90

Long handicap: Summer Queen 8-2

BETTING: 7-2 Selfish, 9-2 Brave Kris, 11-2 Flamboyance, 6-1 Atlantic Desire, 9-1 Baked Alaska, 10-1 Alpine Time, 16-1 others.

1996: DAWNA 9-3 Pat Eddery (9-2) H Cecil 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

DANCING DROP about ¾l 3rd of 9 to Out Line in handicap at Sandown (7f, good to firm) with ALPINE TIME ½l 4th. JAFN about 1¾l 5th of 9 to Out West in listed race at Goodwood (1m, good). GIFT TOKEN beat Blueygreen 3l in 13-runner maiden at Salisbury (1m, good to firm). FLAMBOYANCE 2½l 2nd of 5 to Nocette in conditions race over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start. SELFISH neck 2nd of 4 to Wasp Ranger in maiden at Goodwood (1m, good). BRAVE KRIS beat Supply And Demand 1l in 15-runner handicap at Newmarket (1m, good). ATLANTIC DESIRE ¾l 2nd of 6 to Maylane in conditions race at Goodwood (1m 1f, good). KALINKA about 1½l 4th of 19 to Out Of Sight in handicap at York (1m, good).
Selection: BRAVE KRIS

2.30 PALAN STAKES

BBC1

(Handicap: 3-Y-O: £14,720: 5f) (19 runners)

201	(1)	104-04	JHAZI 25 (D,F) (A Bul Hab) D Loder 9-7	D R McCabe	90
202	(6)	-33133	BISHOPS COURT 7 (D,G,S) (D Brotherton) Mrs J Ramsden 9-6	J Fortune	97
203	(5)	262-10	DARB ALOLA 48 (D,BF,F) (A al-Maktoum) M Stoute 9-4	J Reid	89
204	(4)	1-2056	MYRMIDON 28 (D,S) (M Worth) Mrs L Stubbs 8-13	K Fallon	96
205	(14)	104-05	CAERFILLY DANCER 47 (G,F) (B Woolsey) R Akehurst 8-12	T Quinn	90
206	(7)	431660	DANCETHENIGHTAWAY 14 (D,G,S) (G Bosley) B Meehan 8-9	Pat Eddery	97
207	(15)	15-214	KILCULLEN LAD 7 (D,F,G) (G Tobin) P Mooney 8-8	W J O'Connor	93
208	(8)	0134	SOVIET LEADER 3 (G) (Matthews Racing) R Guest 8-7	Paul Eddery	94
209	(2)	310-24	SABINA 46 (BF,G) (The Queen) I Balding 8-7	L Dettori	95
210	(17)	440620	SWINO 12 (V,D,F) (Swinnerton Transport) P Evans 8-7	J F Egan	97
211	(19)	21-02	CHILI CONCERTO 33 (D,G) (Ten Horsepower) P Makin 8-7	S Sanders	94
212	(12)	5-3000	RUDI'S PET 15 (B,D,G) (Broadgate Ptns) R Hannon 8-6	Dane O'Neill	98
213	(16)	231-65	POLISH WARRIOR 21 (B,D,F) (M Burke's Settlement) T Barron 8-5	T Sprake	95
214	(13)	-11404	PLAISIR D'AMOUR 21 (F) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 8-2	R Ffrench (5)	96
215	(9)	2-1016	PRINCE DOME 7 (D,F) (G Jones) M Wane 8-1	A Whelan (3)	99
216	(10)	-22120	MANGUS 33 (D,BF,F) K C-Brown 7-12	Darren Moffatt (3)	95
217	(11)	300-11	CAUDA EQUINA 33 (D,F,S) (M Foy) M Channon 7-12	C Rutter	95
218	(18)	005021	IVORY DAWN 8 (G) (D Ivory) K Ivory 7-10	Martin Dwyer (3)	95
219	(3)	06-011	BRAMBLE BEAR 22 (D,F,S) (Mrs M Hill) M Blanshard 7-10	J Quinn	89

Long handicap: Ivory Dawn 7-8, Bramble Bear 7-7.

BETTING: 7-2 Bishops Court, 10-1 Jhazi, Darb Alola, Caerfilly Dancer, Dancethenightaway, Kilcullen Lad, Sabina, 16-1 others.

1996: MIDNIGHT ESCAPE 8-5 N Carlisle (13-2) C Wall 14 ran

FORM FOCUS

BISHOPS COURT neck and 1¾l 3rd of 19 to Return Of Amin in handicap at York (6f, good to soft). DARB ALOLA beat Captain Sinbad 5l in 6-runner maiden at Warwick (5f, good to firm) on penultimate start. SOVIET LEADER neck and 5l 3rd of 4 to Wolf Mountain in conditions race at Leicester (6f, good to firm) on penultimate start, with JHAZI (12lb worse off) 23l 4th. PLAISIR D'AMOUR about 4½l 4th of 12 to Blue Goblin in handicap at Newmarket (5f, good to firm) with POLISH WARRIOR neck 5th. CAUDA EQUINA beat Midasmassar 2½l in 4-runner conditions race at Bath (5f, good to soft). BRAMBLE BEAR completed double, beat Northern Sal ¾l in 4-runner handicap at Catterick (5f, good to firm).
Selection: BISHOPS COURT (nap)

3.00 MILCARS CONDITIONS STAKES

BBC1

(3-Y-O: £9,103: 1m 4f) (5 runners)

301	(3)	213-21	FALAK 28 (F,G) (H al-Maktoum) W Hern 9-5	R Hills	98
302	(2)	1-601	POSEIDON 14 (F,G) (La Nuova Sbarra) M Channon 9-5	J Fortune	94
303	(4)	55-532	BLUE RIVER 7 (BF,F,S) (M Legge) T Mills 8-11	T Quinn	97
304	(1)	03-14	CONON FALLS 32 (S) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-11	L Dettori	93
305	(5)	110-05	MONZA 38 (G) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-11	J Reid	99

BETTING: 7-4 Conon Falls, 5-2 Monza, 7-2 Falak, 11-2 Blue River, 6-1 Poseidon

1996: ASTOR PLACE 8-11 J Reid (5-6 fav) P Chapple-Hyam 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

FALAK beat Stowaway ½l in 10-runner conditions race at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to firm). POSEIDON beat Yorkshire ½l in 6-runner conditions race at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good to firm). BLUE RIVER 2l 3rd of 6 to Ghataas in conditions race at Leicester (1m 4f, good). CONON FALLS 4¾l 4th of 6 to Grapeshot in listed race at Goodwood (1m 2f, good). MONZA about 5¾l 5th of 6 to Benny The Dip in group II Grosvenor Casinos Dante Stakes at York (1m 2f 85yd, good).
Selection: FALAK

3.35 LADBROKE HANDICAP

BBC1

(£21,983: 1m 2f) (18 runners)

401	(8)	211-30	WILCUMA 34 (D,BF,F,G,S) (T Warner) P Makin 6-10-0	R Cochrane	94
402	(2)	635-44	WINTER ROMANCE 38 (S) (M al-Maktoum) E Dunlop 4-9-9	M Hills	91
403	(4)	000-06	MUSICK HOUSE 38 (B,S) (Mrs J Magnier) P Chapple-Hyam 4-9-2	J Reid	90
404	(17)	301265	MAJOR CHANGE 14 (D,F,G) (Two In One Ptnr) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-2	K Fallon	94
405	(7)	00-532	GAME PLOY 8 (D,F,G) (K Kynaston) D Haydn Jones 5-9-1	Pat Eddery	95
406	(1)	0-1445	ROMIOS 14 (D,F,G,S) (C Shiacolas) P Cole 5-8-13	T Quinn	95
407	(15)	4125-0	ARCTIID 28 (D,G) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 4-8-12	L Dettori	89
408	(12)	00-560	HENRY THE FIFTH 14 (S) (A Richards) C Brittain 4-8-12	W Ryan	93
409	(18)	3-3062	STAR MANAGER 14 (G,S) (M Arbib) P Cole 7-8-9	C Rutter	99
410	(6)	60-021	WAFIR 22 (D,F,G,S) (W MacPherson) P Calver 5-8-5	Darren Moffatt (3)	98
411	(5)	-00220	REMAADI SUN 26 (D,F) (T Barker) M Usher 5-8-5	R Street	98
412	(11)	2-0020	DOCKLANDS LIMO 3 (D,G) (Mrs L Carey) B McMath 4-8-4	D Harrison	97
413	(13)	100-64	CONSPICUOUS 14 (D,F,G) (Mrs J Hopkins) L Cottrell 7-8-4	M Roberts	97
414	(10)	60-321	ORSAY 8 (D,F,G) (C Deer) W Muir 5-8-3	Martin Dwyer (3)	95
415	(14)	0/2024	VIRTUAL REALITY 15 (D,F) (Ash Ploc) J Toller 6-8-1	S Sanders	97
416	(16)	442535	MASTER BEVELED 7 (F,G,S) (Mrs E Gutherie) P Evans 7-7-10	J F Egan	98
417	(9)	052002	SYLVAN PRINCESS 5 (F) (Camelot Racing) D Cosgrove 4-7-10	M Baird (3)	95
418	(3)	0320-1	ROISIN CLOVER 21 (F,G) (Clockhouse Press) R Rowe 6-7-10	DOUBTFUL	89

Long handicap: Sylvan Princess 7-7, Roisin Clover 7-6

BETTING: 7-1 Arctiid, Orsay, Winter Romance, 8-1 Game Ploy, Wafir, 9-1 Star Manager, 10-1 Romios, 11-1 Conspicuous, 12-1 Wilcuma, 14-1 Major Change, Master Beveled, 20-1 others.

1996: SALMON LADDER 4-10-0 T Quinn (3-1 fav) P Cole 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

WILCUMA 5¾l 3rd of 5 to Germano in conditions race at Newmarket (1m 2f, good) on penultimate start. WINTER ROMANCE 4½l 4th of 14 to Centre Stalls in listed handicap at York (1m, good) with MUSICK HOUSE (3lb better off) 2¾l 6th. STAR MANAGER ½l 2nd of 14 to Champagne Prince in handicap at Epsom (1m 2f, good) with CONSPICUOUS (3lb better off) 1¾l 4th, MAJOR CHANGE (3lb better off) 1l 5th and HENRY THE FIFTH (8lb better off) 30¾l 14th. WAFIR beat Lapu-Lapu 2l in 5-runner handicap at Ayr (1m 2f, good to firm) with MASTER BEVELED (7lb better off) about 2¾l 5th. ORSAY beat GAME PLOY (1lb better off) neck in 8-runner handicap at Sandown (1m 2f, good to firm). ROISIN CLOVER beat Heart Of Armor 5l in 12-runner handicap at Kempton (1m 4f, good to firm).
Selection: STAR MANAGER

4.10 TRIUMVIRATE LIMITED STAKES

(3-Y-O: £6,272: 1m rnd) (9 runners)

501	(4)	0-1126	STRATHMORE CLEAR 15 (D,F) (Food Brokers) G Lewis 9-1	Paul Eddery	97
502	(7)	223-01	ANOTHER NIGHT 14 (D,F) (B Lalemand) R Hannon 8-13	Dane O'Neill	93
503	(5)	310	LORD EUROLINK 28 (D,G) (Eurolink Ptn) J Dunlop 8-12	L Dettori	95
504	(9)	054-10	MAFTOOL 54 (D,BF,S) (H al-Maktoum) J Gosden 8-13	R Hills	87
505	(6)	21-52	COURTSHIP 60 (BF,F) (H De Walden) H Cecil 8-11	K Fallon	99
506	(3)	3-03	RIGHT WING 48 (Lord Chelsea) W Hern 8-11	T Sprake	94
507	(2)	1-340	SUGARFOOT 39 (F) (Mrs D Wright) N Tinkler 8-11	R Cochrane	98
508	(8)	1	IRISH LIGHT 41 (D,S) (Cheveley Park Stud) M Stoute 8-10	J Reid	92
509	(1)	1	SWEET CONTRALTO 28 (S) (S Frisby) D Loder 8-10	Pat Eddery	98

BETTING: 7-2 Courtship, Sweet Contralto, 4-1 Irish Light, 6-1 Right Wing, 7-1 Strathmore Clear, 8-1 Another Night, 10-1 Lord Eurolink, 16-1 others.

1996: GOLDEN POND 8-10 J Reid (6-1) R Johnson Houghton 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

STRATHMORE CLEAR beat Bollin Terry 1½l in 12-runner handicap at Warwick (1m, good to firm). ANOTHER NIGHT beat Kazzoud 3½l in 6-runner maiden at Haydock (1m, good to firm). LORD EUROLINK beat [illegible] 2½l in 15-runner maiden at Doncaster (1m, good) on penultimate start. MAFTOOL beat Ferdia 3l in 7-runner maiden at Newcastle (1m, good) on penultimate start. COURTSHIP 1l 2nd of 9 to Another Time in handicap at Pontefract (1m, good to firm). RIGHT WING 3¾l 3rd of 15 to Among Men in maiden at Newmarket (1m, good). IRISH LIGHT beat Sollelie ½l in 14-runner maiden at Bath (1m, good to soft). SWEET CONTRALTO beat Gemmual 1¼l in 5-runner maiden at Haydock (7f, good to soft).
Selection: RIGHT WING

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell P — pulled up. U — unseated rider B — brought down S — slipped up R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing, J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor H — hood E — Eyeshield. C — course winner D — distance winner CD — course and distance winner BF — beaten favourite in latest race) Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.40 E B F NOVICE FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £5,550: 6f) (12 runners)

601	(2)	01	FFESTINIOG 17 (D,F) (Elite Racing) P Cole 9-3	T Quinn	93
602	(9)	5441	DAYS OF GRACE 51 (F) (S Bayless) M Meade 9-1	F Norton	94
603	(6)	001	LISA'S PRIDE 11 (D,F) (A Griffin) Miss G Kelleway 8-13	K Fallon	75
604	(4)	55	ANGELIQUE 33 (G Steinberg) M Haynes 8-11	J Reid	92
605	(3)		DANCING ICON (J Smith) R Hannon 8-11	R Hughes	--
606	(10)	443	FIRE GODDESS 11 (Mrs V Goodman) J S Moore 8-11	W J O'Connor	97
607	(5)		FORUM (Wyck Hall Stud) C Brittain 8-11	B Doyle	–
608	(11)	34	MIGHTY MAGIC 22 (R Tory) Mrs P Dutfield 8-11	S Sanders	99
609	(12)	5	MIGRATE 14 (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 8-11	L Dettori	98
610	(7)	04	MUJA'S MAGIC 7 (Mrs V Hubbard) K Ivory 8-11	Martin Dwyer (3)	93
611	(8)		NEXT ROUND (Dein Ltd) M Bell 8-11	M Fenton	–
612	(1)		SURPRESA CARA (Surpresa Venture) G Lewis 8-11	Paul Eddery	–

BETTING: 9-4 Migrate, 9-2 Ffestiniog, 11-2 Days Of Grace, 13-2 Lisa's Pride, 7-1 Dancing Icon, 8-1 Fire Goddess, 10-1 Mighty Magic, 12-1 others.

1996: KHASSAH 8-11 R Hills (4-1) J Gosden 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

FFESTINIOG beat First dance 2½l in 7-runner maiden at Folkestone (6f, good to firm). DAYS OF GRACE beat Sharp Cracker 3l in 7-runner auction maiden at Redcar (6f, firm). LISA'S PRIDE beat Phone Alert ½l in 11-runner auction maiden at Salisbury (6f, good to firm) with FIRE GODDESS (5lb worse off) head 3rd. ANGELIQUE about 18¾l last of 5 to Going Places in conditions race at Windsor (5f, soft). MIGHTY MAGIC 10¾l 4th of 14 to Ascot Cyclone in maiden at Bath (5f 161yd, good to firm). MIGRATE 7¼l 5th of 7 to Starrytrailer in maiden at Newmarket (6f, good). MUJA'S MAGIC 2¾l 4th of 12 to Petarga in auction maiden at Bath (5f, good to firm).
Selection: LISA'S PRIDE

5.10 CHURCHILL HANDICAP

(£5,836: 2m 45yd) (17 runners)

1	(15)	23/0-0	SHAFT OF LIGHT 63 (F,G) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 5-9-12	L Dettori	–
2	(5)	60-231	SAMUEL SCOTT 14 (F) (R Green) M Pipe 4-9-11	Dane O'Neill	97
3	(8)	51-606	PALAMON 43 (F) (A Holland) P Eccles 4-9-9	J Fortune	98
4	(10)	423-04	SANDY FLOSS 17 (Mrs S Livesey) R Buckler 4-9-4	Pat Eddery	92
5	(12)	240-42	DIEGO 18 (G) (C Brittain) C Brittain 4-9-1	D J Whyte	91
6	(17)	115-00	BOLIVAR 28 (B,CD,F,G) (BEL Leisure) R Akehurst 5-8-13	T Quinn	92
7	(9)	140832	TAWAFEK 12 (BF,G) (I Shepherd) S Dow 4-8-13	J Reid	95
8	(6)	42-063	MIGHTY PHANTOM 9 (D,F,G) (M Wauchope) J Hills 4-8-13	M Hills	98
9	(14)	12-004	FRENCH IVY 24 (CD,F,G) (K Flood) F Murphy 10-8-11	R Cochrane	99
10	(2)	212310	SOOJAMA 28 (B,D,F,G) (M Rogers) R Flower 7-8-5	S Drowne	98
11	(3)	613622	MATTHIAS MYSTIQUE 7 (D,G) (Mrs J Laycock) Miss B Sanders 4-8-5	S Sanders	98
12	(13)	0402-0	REQUESTED 71 (V,CD,F,G) M Usher 10-7-12	D R McCabe	90
13	(1)	001411	SUDEST 7 (F) (R Hughes) I Balding 3-7-11	Martin Dwyer (3)	97
14	(11)	021312	HIGH FIVE 40 (D,BF,G,S) (D Wilson) R Ingram 7-7-10	J Quinn	95
15	(7)	0-6411	RIGHT MAN 29 (G,S) (G V Wright) G Lewis 3-7-10	R Ffrench (5)	92
16	(4)	040-60	VERONICA FRANCO 17 (BF) (G Boyer) R Ingram 4-7-10	N Adams	95
17	(16)	00/035	BRIDIE'S PRIDE 28 (K White) G Ham 6-7-10	J Fowle (7)	95

Long handicap: Right Man 7-8, Bridie's Pride 7-5.

BETTING: 7-2 Right Man, 9-2 Samuel Scott, 7-1 Matthias Mystique, 8-1 Bolivar, French Ivy, Sudest, 10-1 Diego, Tawafek, 16-1 others.

1996: BOLIVAR 4-8-4 T Quinn (9-2 jt-fav) R Akehurst 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

SAMUEL SCOTT beat Nanton Point 4l in 6-runner handicap at Haydock (1m 6f, good to firm). PALAMON 31¼l last of 6 to Capilano Princess in conditions race at Nottingham (1m 2f, good). DIEGO 1½l 2nd of 3 to Niger's Lad in handicap at Pontefract (2m 1f, good to firm). TAWAFEK short-head 2nd of 10 to Salska in handicap at Nottingham (1m 6f, good to firm). MIGHTY PHANTOM head and 3¼l 3rd of 5 to Transom in handicap at Goodwood (2m, good). SUDEST completed double, beat Ludo 3½l in 8-runner conditions race at Bath (1m 3f 144yd, good to firm). RIGHT MAN completed double beat Jucinda 2l in 10-runner handicap at Nottingham (1m 6f, good).
Selection: SAMUEL SCOTT

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
H Cecil	17	87	19.5	L Dettori	34	216	15.7
R Akehurst	16	87	18.4	T Quinn	27	190	14.2
J Dunlop	26	144	18.1	Pat Eddery	32	243	13.2
T Mills	3	18	16.7	J Reid	26	215	12.1
J Gosden	19	117	16.2	J Weaver	11	94	11.7
P Cole	16	104	15.4	M Hills	16	140	11.4
W Hern	3	21	14.3	K Fallon	4	40	10.0

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Musselburgh (first race, 2.30), Nottingham (2.15), Windsor (Sky, 6.40), Yarmouth (Sky, 6.25).
TUESDAY: Lingfield Park (AW, 2.30), Warwick (2.15)
WEDNESDAY: Carlisle (2.15), Chester (Sky, 6.50), Epsom (Sky, 6.40), Hamilton Park (7.00), Salisbury (2.30).
THURSDAY: Carlisle (2.15), Salisbury (2.00).
FRIDAY: Folkestone (2.10), Goodwood (6.40), Newcastle (6.15), Newmarket (2.00), Stratford (6.50), Wolverhampton (AW, 2.20)
SATURDAY: Bath (2.15), Doncaster (Sky, 6.50), Lingfield Park (Sky, 6.35), Newcastle (C4, 2.10), Newmarket (C4, 2.00), Worcester (2.35).
SUNDAY: Doncaster (C4, 2.00), Goodwood (2.15), Uttoxeter (Sky, 2.10).
Flat meetings in bold

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LADBROKE HANDICAP
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7/1 Arctiid
7/1 Orsay
7/1 Winter Romance
8/1 Game Ploy
8/1 Wafir
9/1 Star Manager
10/1 Romios
11/1 Conspicuous
12/1 Wilcuma
14/1 Major Change
14/1 Master Beveled
20/1 Musick House
20/1 Remaadi Sun
20/1 Virtual Reality
25/1 Docklands Limo
25/1 Sylvan Princess
66/1 Henry The Fifth
N/R Roisin Clover

N/R = Trainer states non-runner.
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*Free bet is a £10 Straight Forecast on the Ascot 3.35pm today. (Please place your bet and make your free bet selection within the same call.)

William HILL
TO OPEN A CREDIT ACCOUNT FREEPHONE 0800 289 892. WILLIAM HILL RULES APPLY. PRICES SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATION.

[illegible]FIELD PARK

THUNDERER

6.15 Manileno. 6.45 Phone Alex. 7.15 Barranak. 7.45 Daring Flight. 8.15 Zamalek. 8.45 Around Fore Alliss.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT SIS
DRAW: 5F-7F 140YD HIGH NUMBERS BEST (TURF)

6.15 TAIWAN AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP
(£2,277: 1m 3f 106yd) (13 runners)

1 -4002 GOLD BLADE 15 (D,F,G) J Pearce 8-11-7 Mrs L Pearce 5
2 2000 BIONTONE 8 (F,G,S) J Jenkins 7-11-2 Dr M Mannish 7
3 -4000 DON'T DROP BOMBS 14 (V,F,G) D Thom 8-10-2 Miss J Feilden 3
4 -300 BENJAMINS LAW 25 (G) J Pickering 6-10-1 V Lukaniuk (5) 6
5 -400 GRAND APPLAUSE 23 (V) M Salaman 7-9-10 S Rutherford (5) 2
6 0024 STRAT'S LEGACY 14 (F,G) D Arbuthnot 10-9-9 Mrs D Arbuthnot 13
7 [illegible] MANILENO 23 (F) M Pipe 3-9-8 J Goldstein 9
8 [illegible] NAILS TAILS 60 S Dow 4-9-6 T Cuff 1
9 -0005 SPECTACLE JIM 17 (G) B Pearce 8-9-6 Mrs K Hills (5) 8
10 -800 MEGA TID 14 (G) J Poulton 5-9-1 Miss J Wormall (5) 12
11 1005 SPIRAL FLYER 26 M Usher 4-9-0 Mrs A Usher (5) 10
12 00-5 BURNING COST 40 R Peacock 7-9-0 Mrs C Peacock (5) 11
13 -000 SUSSEX GORSE 72 (B) J Long 6-9-0 T Waters (5) 4

11-4 Manileno, 7-2 Don't Drop Bombs, 4-1 Gold Blade, 5-1 Grand Applause, 7-1 [illegible] Benjamins Law, Strat's Legacy, 10-1 Nails Tails, 12-1 others.

6.45 TATTERSALLS MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES
SKY
(2-Y-O: £2,914: 5f) (7)

1 MARAHILL LAD P Howling 8-12 Paul Eddery 4
2 RELATE M Meade 8-4 F Norton 3
3 4 FRANKIE FAIR 7 M Jarvis 8-3 M Roberts 1
4 23 MUFTUFFENUF 17 (BF) P Webber 8-3 D Harrison 2
5 022 PHONE ALEX 11 (BF) R Hannon 8-2 Dane O'Neill 5
6 30 SWEET ROSIE 22 R Boss 8-0 J Quinn 7
7 06 WILD LILLY 12 M Ryan 7-13 M Baird (3) 6

11-10 Phone Alex, 7-2 Muftuffenuf, 4-1 Frankie Fair, 8-1 Sweet Rosie, 12-1 Wild Lilly, 20-1 Marahill Lad, Relate.

7.15 VINES OF SEVENOAKS HANDICAP
SKY
(£3,174: 5f) (11)

1 5011 SONGSHEET 12 (D,F,G) M Saunders 4-9-13 P P Murphy (3) 1
2 5-00 ANOTHER BATCHWORTH 24 (B,D,F,G) E Wheeler 5-9-10 A Daly (5) 7
3 0000 SWEET MAGIC 15 (B,D,G) P Howling 6-9-9 Paul Eddery 2
4 2115 POLLY GOLIGHTLY 12 (B,CD,F,G) M Blanshard 4-9-9 N Adams 5
5 3600 ROBELLION 11 (V,D,F,G) D Arbuthnot 6-9-7 D Harrison 11
6 5021 BARRANAK 10 (D,F,G) G McCourt 5-9-4 C Rutter 6
7 0400 SHARP STOCK 10 R Hodges 4-9-3 S Drowne 10
8 0005 ICE AGE 12 (D,F) R Williams 3-8-12 R Cochrane 8
9 -000 VILLAGE PUB 19 (B) K Cunningham-Brown 3-7-13 R Ffrench (5) 9
10 6154 BRIGHT PARAGON 10 (CD,F,G,S) K Ivory 8-7-11 Martin Dwyer (3) 3
11 00-0 MAZZARELLO 19 (V,D,F,G) R Ingram 7-7-10 M Baird (3) 4

11-4 Songsheet, 7-2 Polly Golightly, 9-2 Barranak, 5-1 Bright Paragon, 8-1 Another Batchworth, Ice Age, 10-1 Robellion, Sharp Stock, 12-1 others.

7.45 JARDINE INSURANCE SERVICES LIMITED STAKES
SKY
(3-Y-O: £2,966: 7f) (6)

1 3210 MR PARADISE 15 (F) T Naughton 9-0 J D Smith (3) 5
2 -001 PERICLES 7 (D,G) M Johnston 9-0 J Weaver 3
3 00-4 DARING FLIGHT 115 Lord Huntingdon 8-11 D Harrison 1
4 6342 NIGHT EXPRESS 14 B Hanbury 8-11 W Ryan 6
5 3051 TAJREBAH 7 (CD,F) P Walwyn 8-11 R Hills 2
6 -600 INCLINATION 11 M Blanshard 8-8 J Quinn 4

6-4 Pericles, 3-1 Night Express, 9-2 Daring Flight, 11-2 Tajrebah, 7-1 Mr Paradise, 14-1 Inclination.

8.15 MARK WILLSON 18TH BIRTHDAY HANDICAP
SKY
(£3,086: 1m 1f) (14)

1 540- YOUR MOST WELCOME 192 (D,F,G) D Ffrench Davis 6-9-11 R Ffrench (5) 7
2 1560 WHAT A FUSS 10 (G) B Hanbury 4-9-10 W Ryan 12
3 6301 ROMAN REEL 18 (F,G) G L Moore 6-9-7 M Wigham 13
4 3603 CHARLTON IMP 12 (F,G) R Hodges 4-9-7 S Drowne 11
5 0005 HARVEY WHITE 7 (F,G) J Pearce 5-9-7 N Day 8
6 0025 LAW DANCER 24 (D,G) T Mills 4-9-6 R Hills 3
7 -052 RENATA'S PRINCE 12 (D,F) K Burke 4-9-5 K Fallon 2
8 3-05 ERRANT 21 (G) D Cosgrove 5-9-5 J Quinn 5
9 -022 SAMARA SONG 5 (BF) I Williams 4-9-5 M Roberts 6
10 0-00 MOI CANARD 7 (F,G) B Pearce 4-9-1 A Daly (5) 9
11 -603 SOVEREIGN CREST 7 C Horgan 4-9-1 Paul Eddery 4
12 2414 QUEENS STROLLER 17 (D,G) R Peacock 6-8-13 D Harrison 14
13 1301 ZAMALEK 7 (C,F,G) R Flower 5-8-12 F Norton 1
14 4200 SQUARE MILE MISS 16 P Howling 4-8-9 DOUBTFUL 10

7-2 Zamalek, 9-2 Samara Song, 6-1 Renata's Prince, 7-1 Roman Reel, 8-1 What A Fuss, Charlton Imp, 10-1 Sovereign Crest, 12-1 others.

8.45 BEIJING MAIDEN HANDICAP
(All-weather: 3-Y-O: £2,277: 1m) (12)

1 3405 AROUND FORE ALLISS 19 T Mills 9-7 K Fallon 6
2 4026 WARRING 11 M Saunders 9-4 P P Murphy (3) 10
3 30-5 GO FOR GREEN 18 J Scargill 9-4 D Griffiths (3) 9
4 -060 KRISTOPHER 19 J Hills 9-2 R Hills 11
5 0545 CASTLE ASHBY JACK 16 (B) P Howling 9-2 Paul Eddery 5
6 6440 LES BEFORUM 18 L Montague Hall 8-10 J Weaver 12
7 -0000 CANTON RON 5 C Dwyer 8-8 D Harrison 7
8 0-00 BAPSFORD 21 G L Moore 8-6 R Perham 8
9 0003 PUSH A VENTURE 10 S Woods 8-5 W Ryan 2
10 -060 DR WOODSTOCK 37 M Meade 8-5 F Norton 3
11 0-00 WELCOME HEIGHTS 19 M Fetherston-Godley 7-10 R Ffrench (5) 4
12 -460 FORMIDABLE SPIRIT 15 (V) M Heaton-Ellis 7-10 J Quinn 1

7-2 Warring, 4-1 Around Fore Alliss, 5-1 Go For Green, 7-1 Canton Ron, Push A Venture, 8-1 Kristopher, 10-1 Castle Ashby Jack.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Lord Huntingdon, 48 winners from 232 runners, 20.7%; M Johnston, 54 from 292, 18.5%; B Hanbury, 7 from 39, 17.9%; L Montague Hall, 14 from 83, 16.9%; P Walwyn, 12 from 83, 14.5%; G L Moore, 69 from 490, 13.8%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 85 winners from 395 rides, 21.5%; K Fallon, 6 from 32, 18.8%; W Ryan, 30 from 169, 17.8%; R Cochrane, 66 from 378, 17.5%; Miss J Feilden, 4 from 26, 15.4%; D Griffiths, 8 from 54, 14.8%.

Blinkered first time

ASCOT: 2.00 Marathon Maid. 2.30 Polish Warrior, Rudi's Pet, Swino; 5.10 Requested. AYR: 4.50 Carol Again, Forzair. LINGFIELD PARK: 7.15 Sweet Magic. REDCAR: 2.10 Forest Robin, 2.40 Flash D'Or, Linnetsong, Sylvan Cloud. 3.40 Night Mirage. 4.45 Marylebone, Wagga Moon. SOUTHWELL: 2.25 Damcada. 3.30 Fast Freeze. 4.35 Bright Eclipse. WOLVERHAMPTON: 8.55 Risknowt Getnowt.

SOUTHWE[illegible]

THUNDERER

1.55 Ordog Mor. 2.25 Peruvian Gale. 2.55 Punkah. 3.30 On My Toes. 4.00 Pegasus Bay. 4.35 Code Red. 5.05 Stormhill Stag.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

1.55 WILL SCARLET NOVICES CHASE
(£3,869: 2m 4f 110yd) (12 runners)

1 421- DANDIE IMP 22 (D,G,S) A Carroll 9-11-7 B Powell
2 3U1- GIRMMA 38 (V,CD,F,G) J O'Shea 7-11-7 N Williamson
3 0P-1 ORDOG MOR 14 (CD,F,G) M Meagher 8-11-7 A P McCoy
4 P31- WALLS COURT 49 (D,F) J Birkett 10-11-7 L O'Hara
5 /15- YQUEM 40 (BF,G,S) C James 7-11-7 Mr J Tizzard (7)
6 21-U GYPSY KING 16 (F) Miss L Russell 9-11-0 A Thornton
7 221- RAYMAN 27P (F) Miss K George 9-11-0 M A Fitzgerald
8 P3-0 ROYAL CITIZEN 7 (D,F,G) J Bottomley 8-11-0 D Byrne
9 /0-2 THIS IS MY LIFE 7 (F) C Brooks 8-11-0 M Berry (7)
10 11P- KIRI'S ROSE 20P (F) B Gee 7-10-9 Mr P Gee
11 LINO A Harvey 6-10-9 J A McCarthy
12 P4-0 MORCAT 7 C Ratcliffe 8-10-9 R Supple

7-2 This Is My Life, 4-1 Girmma, 5-1 Ordog Mor, 6-1 Dandie Imp, 7-1 Gypsy King, 8-1 Walls Court, Yquem, 10-1 Rayman, 12-1 others.

2.25 ROBIN HOOD HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,126: 3m 110yd) (12)

1 21P- GLENFINN PRINCESS 53 (F,S) P Bowen 9-11-10 N Williamson
2 085- SMITH TOO 21 (D,F,G) Mrs J Pitman 9-11-6 R Farrant
3 4P-5 TEMPLE GARTH 15 (D,F,G,S) P Beaumont 8-11-3 R Supple
4 411- CARLINGFORD LAKES 82 (D,F,S) T T Jones 9-10-13 M A Fitzgerald
5 55-3 SCRABO VIEW 16 (B,CD,F,G,S) P Beaumont 9-10-11 B Grattan (5)
6 52-6 HURRICANE ANDREW 15 (D,F,G,S) J A Moore 9-10-10 A P McCoy
7 234- PERUVIAN GALE 21 (CD,F,G) Mrs S Smith 8-10-9 R Guest
8 6T3- ROYAL SQUARE 35 (C,F,G) N Littmoden 11-10-8 Mr R Thornton (3)
9 746- WILKINS 30 (F,G) R O'Sullivan 8-10-5 P Holley
10 41-5 MASTER CRUSADER 10 (F,G) D Williams 11-10-0 Mr S Durack (7)
11 PP0- DAMCADA 26 (V,S) A Carroll 9-10-0 D Gallagher
12 403- PANDORA'S PRIZE 24 (C,S) T Wall 11-10-0 S Wynne

9-2 Carlingford Lakes, 5-1 Royal Square, 6-1 Smith Too, Hurricane Andrew, 7-1 Glenfinn Princess, 8-1 Temple Garth, 10-1 Peruvian Gale, 12-1 others.

2.55 LITTLE JOHN NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,323: 2m) (12)

1 [illegible]1 PUNKAH 14 (CD,F) G McCourt 4-11-0 D Fortt (3)
2 -6F-F BET WILTSHIRE 7 Mrs N Macauley 5-10-12 S Wynne
3 08-2 FRISKY THYME 15 M Hammond 8-10-12 D Bentley
4 /62 IF ONLY 68 (BF) R Hollinshead 7-10-12 Gary Lyons
5 -054/ MAJOR SIOUX 446 Mrs S Smith 6-10-12 R Guest
6 -P- PARAMOUNT LEADER 224 D Marks 5-10-12 D Morris
7 44U- WHIRL OF THOUGHT IT 42 P Cheesbrough 6-10-12 A Thornton
8 P0- ALPHETON PRINCE 35F J A Harris 4-10-7 J Supple (3)
9 2UP- AUNTIE CHRIS 20P B Gee 7-10-7 Mr P Gee
10 -080/ BETTER WIND 759 C J Price 8-10-7 J Culloty
11 SHARAF 7F W Muir 4-10-7 M Richards
12 04F- SOCIETY GIRL 23 J O'Shea 4-10-2 N Williamson

7-4 Punkah, 7-2 Society Girl, 4-1 Frisky Thyme, 6-1 If Only, 8-1 Sharaf, 10-1 Major Sioux, 12-1 Alpheton Prince, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: M Meagher, 3 winners from 8 runners, 37.5%; J O'Shea, 12 from 35, 34.3%; B Llewellyn, 5 from 18, 27.8%; K Morgan, 5 from 21, 23.8%; T Thomson Jones, 4 from 20, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: Mr J L Llewellyn, 5 winners from 15 rides, 33.3%; G Lee, 3 from 10, 30.0%; A P McCoy, 15 from 56, 26.8%; J A McCarthy, 4 from 17, 23.5%; N Williamson, 10 from 47, 21.3%.

REDCAR

THUNDERER

2.10 Clytha Hill Lad. 2.40 Greenbrook. 3.10 Sun Of Spring. 3.40 Billy Bushwacker. 4.15 Muhtafel. 4.45 Midnight Shift. 5.15 Coral Island.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES) SIS
DRAW: 6F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

2.10 HAND TO ROUF LADY AMATEUR RIDERS MAIDEN HANDICAP
(£2,217: 1m) (11 runners)

1 (11) 0006 FOREST ROBIN 12 (V,BF) Mrs J Ramsden 4-11-7 Miss E Ramsden (4) 90
2 (2) 0453 TERDAD 4 T Barron 4-11-1 Miss M Kouthen (4) [illegible]
3 (8) 0-65 SWING WEST 14 P Cole 3-10-13 Miss S Higgins (4) 96
4 (10) 3443 KASS ALHAWA 12 D Chapman 4-10-9 Miss R Clark 95
5 (6) 0000 MIDDAY COWBOY 24 M Hammond 4-10-6 Miss A J Smith (7) —
6 (9) 00-0 BORN ON THE WILD 88 S Kettlewell 4-10-0 Mrs D Kettlewell 84
7 (7) 2000 AFRICAN SUN 16 M Chapman 4-9-13 Miss E Folkes (7) 92
8 (1) 530/ GOLDEN FISH 480J E Alston 5-9-8 Mrs C Williams (4) —
9 (4) 5-32 CLYTHA HILL LAD 16 J Bradley 6-9-4 Miss A Daniel (4) 98
10 (5) 0R0- MISS ALICE 259 C Smith 3-9-2 Mrs M Morris (4) —
11 (3) -000 INTREPID FORT 3 (B) B Murray 8-9-0 Sarah Bosley 79

5-2 Clytha Hill Lad, 7-2 Forest Robin, Terdad, 9-2 Kass Alhawa, 8-1 Swing West, African Sun, 20-1 Intrepid Fort, 25-1 others.

2.40 BOTTLE AND A HALF SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,273: 7f) (11)

1 (5) 1600 FLASH D'OR 21 (B,F) M W Easterby 8-12 G Parkin (5) 88
2 (9) 4344 CAPTAIN BLISS 50 (B) N Tinkler 8-11 F Lynch 91
3 (7) 00 ELLENBER 8 W McKeown 8-11 N Day —
4 (3) 003 GREENBROOK 11 W G M Turner 8-11 D Sweeney (5) [illegible]
5 (4) 00 HAYBURNER 10 M W Easterby 8-11 T Lucas 83
6 (10) 0 BEHIND THE VEIL 26 Mrs M Reveley 8-6 S Copp (5) —
7 (8) LADY SO BOLD Mrs L Stubbs 8-6 D Wright —
8 (1) 4 LAST LAP 11 T Easterby 8-6 J Carroll 93
9 (2) 00 LINNETSONG 31 (V) G Oldroyd 8-6 K Hodgson —
10 (6) 0035 SYLVAN CLOUD 14 (B) C Fairhurst 8-6 G Carter 76
11 (11) 020 THE HONORABLE LADY 12 M Channon 8-6 A Clark 95

3-1 Greenbrook, 7-2 Last Lap, 9-2 The Honorable Lady, 11-2 Captain Bliss, 8-1 Flash D'Or, Hayburner, 10-1 Ellenber, Sylvan Cloud, 12-1 others.

3.10 TEES COMPONENTS HANDICAP
(£2,868: 1m 6f 19yd) (15)

1 (15) 3003 ALMUHTARAM 18 (B,C,F,G) G Lewis 5-10-0 A Clark 93
2 (7) 1010 COTTAGE PRINCE 10 (C,F,G) J J Quinn 4-9-9 J Lowe 85
3 (14) /310 SUN OF SPRING 11 (D,BF,F,G) D Chapman 7-9-8 G Parkin (5) 90
4 (8) 0111 KALAMATA 8 (D,G) J Glover 5-9-6 N Day [illegible]
5 (6) 0056 ANOTHER QUARTER 5 (F,G) M Chapman 4-9-6 Victoria Appleby (7) 81
6 (12) 6034 ANCHORENA 23 (F) D Barker 5-9-3 F Lynch 91
7 (11) 226- OUR MAIN MAN 190 (F) R Whitaker 7-9-2 D Pears (3) 88
8 (9) 00-5 CLASSIC LINE 40 J Dunlop 3-9-0 G Carter 85
9 (10) 0203 HIGHFIELD FIZZ 26 (CD,F,G) C Fairhurst 5-8-10 J Carroll 92
10 (1) 0043 SUSHI BAR 5 (D,F) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-9 J Fanning 89
11 (2) 0500 DASHING INVADER 14 (B) P Harris 4-8-9 M Henry (3) 85
12 (4) 3556 NAWAJI 26 W Muir 4-8-7 Sophie Mitchell 92
13 (5) /552 CHARITY CRUSADER 21 (B,F) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-6 S Copp (5) 90
14 (13) -256 JUNIOR BEN 17 M Sowersby 5-8-4 C Lowther (7) 98
15 (3) 0/05 GYMCRAK CYRANO 5 (F,S) N Chamberlain 8-8-4 N Varley 86

3-1 Kalamata, 4-1 Sun Of Spring, 7-1 Sushi Bar, Charity Crusader, 8-1 Classic Line, 10-1 Almuhtaram, Cottage Prince, 12-1 others.

3.40 VAUX GOLD TANKARD HANDICAP
(£10,260: 1m 2f) (9)

1 (9) -235 BILLY BUSHWACKER 26 (C,F,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 6-10-0 S Copp (5) 93
2 (2) 0551 BAY OF ISLANDS 17 (D,F) D Morris 5-9-7 N Day 92
3 (5) 4003 SANDMOOR CHAMBRAY 7 (F,G) T Easterby 6-9-5 J Carroll 97
4 (1) -164 HEN HARRIER 21 (F) J Dunlop 3-9-3 G Carter 91
5 (4) 2212 CRYSTAL GOLD 14 (BF,G) M Stoute 3-9-2 M Henry (3) 91
6 (6) 3150 MELS BABY 7 (C,D,F,G,S) J Eyre 4-9-1 M Gallagher [illegible]
7 (7) 2040 SLIP JIG 30 (G,S) K Burke 4-8-12 D Sweeney (5) 90
8 (3) 6042 EUROBOX BOY 7 (F) A Jarvis 4-8-1 D Wright 96
9 (8) 2235 NIGHT MIRAGE 14 (B) M Johnston 3-8-0 J Fanning 94

11-4 Crystal Gold, 9-2 Sandmoor Chambray, 5-1 Bay Of Islands, 11-2 Eurobox Boy, 13-2 Hen Harrier, 8-1 Billy Bushwacker, Night Mirage, 10-1 others.

4.15 TOP MIX MAIDEN STAKES (£3,691: 1m) (11)

1 (8) 55-2 DANTESQUE 19 G Wragg 4-9-7 A Clark [illegible]
2 (4) 00 FRUGAL 26 B Murray 4-9-7 V Halliday —
3 (3) 0 GOLDEN GLORY 3 M Brittain 4-9-7 D Wright —
4 (6) 50 QUAINT DESIRE 3 M Brittain 4-9-7 D Mernagh (7) 74
5 (11) 50 SABU 3 J Charlton 5-9-7 J Carroll 89
6 (7) 2 MUHTAFEL 24 J Dunlop 3-8-11 G Carter 97
7 (10) SWEET FORTUNE M Stoute 3-8-11 F Lynch —
8 (5) 00 BUSTINGOUTALLOVER 14 C Thornton 3-8-6 R Price —
9 (1) 0-6 GYMCRAK GORJOS 35 G Holmes 3-8-6 Alex Greaves 77
10 (9) HANAJIR C Thornton 3-8-6 J Lowe —
11 (2) 00 PETAZ 3 M W Easterby 3-8-6 G Parkin (5) —

5-6 Muhtafel, 9-4 Dantesque, 4-1 Sweet Fortune, 20-1 Sabu, Bustingoutallover, Hanajir, 25-1 others.

4.45 DOUBLE CARPET RATING RELATED MAIDEN STAKES
(£2,781: 6f) (6)

1 (5) 0002 CLASSIC LEADER 8 (V) I Campbell 4-9-7 R Price 95
2 (3) -226 MARYLEBONE 58 (B) J Berry 3-9-0 G Carter [illegible]
3 (4) 3062 TWO ON THE BRIDGE 4 D Smith 3-9-0 C Lowther (7) 98
4 (6) -300 WAGGA MOON 47 (V) J J O'Neill 3-9-0 J Carroll 88
5 (1) 3322 ARCHELLO 16 (BF) G Oldroyd 3-8-11 G Parkin (5) 94
6 (2) 0034 MIDNIGHT SHIFT 16 (BF) R Guest 3-8-11 P Bloomfield 94

7-4 Archello, 5-2 Midnight Shift, 5-1 Two On The Bridge, 7-1 Marylebone, 8-1 Classic Leader, 10-1 Wagga Moon.

5.15 LONG-UN HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £2,898: 1m 1f) (8)

1 (7) 1003 FREEDOM CHANCE 10 (F) J Hills 9-7 M Henry (3) 90
2 (4) 0614 MARSH MARIGOLD 5 (F,S) J Hetherton 9-2 Jenny Benson (7) 84
3 (6) 0-06 HULAL 47 A Stewart 8-11 J Carroll —
4 (5) 0-10 CORAL ISLAND 12 (F) J Fitzgerald 8-9 G Parkin (5) 91
5 (3) 4103 POLARIZE 39 (S) T Barron 8-6 G Carter [illegible]
6 (1) 0010 DEE PEE TEE CEE 4 (C,F) M W Easterby 8-5 T Lucas 95
7 (8) 0-80 MIDNIGHT ROMANCE 53 A Jarvis 7-13 D Wright 80
8 (2) 000- IL PRINCIPE 219 John Berry 7-10 N Varley —

7-4 Freedom Chance, 7-2 Marsh Marigold, Dee Pee Tee Cee, 9-2 Polarize, 8-1 Hulal, 12-1 Coral Island, 25-1 Midnight Romance, 33-1 Il Principe.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: W Muir, 3 winners from 6 runners, 50.0%; M Stoute, 6 from 26, 23.1%; J Dunlop, 9 from 40, 22.5%; P Harris, 6 from 28, 21.4%; G Wragg, 3 from 15, 20%; J Glover, 3 from 22, 13.6%.

JOCKEYS: D Pears, 3 winners from 17 rides, 17.6%; G Carter, 9 from 59, 15.3%; S Copp, 4 from 36, 11.1%. Only qualifiers.

3.30 K T HYDRAULIC HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,390: 3m 110yd) (12)

1 122- SCUD MISSILE 26 (F,G) J Payne 6-11-11 A Thornton
2 11-1 HELLO ME MAN 14 (C,F,G,S) B Llewellyn 9-11-6 Mr J L Llewellyn
3 0P2- DESERT FORCE 42 (B,C,F,G,S) G Fierro 8-11-6 G Bradley
4 223- DERRING BRIDGE 21 (CD,F,S) Mrs S Johnson 7-11-6 A P McCoy
5 5P1- FIVE FLAGS 26 (F,G,S) Mrs S Smith 9-11-5 R Guest
6 P62- PRIME DISPLAY 26 (D,G,S) A Harvey 11-11-0 J A McCarthy
7 P6-4 FRONTIER FLIGHT 7 (B,C,F,G) Miss L Siddall 7-10-13 E Husband (3)
8 132- NAUTICAL JEWEL 38 (F) G McCourt 5-10-8 D Fortt (3)
9 121- ON MY TOES 30 (F,G) R Frost 8-10-3 J Frost
10 PP-6 WAR WHOOP 15 (F) Miss L Russell 5-10-0 Mr R Thornton (3)
11 21-P MARGOOD 15 (G,S) S Clark 12-10-0 J R Kavanagh
12 42/P FAST FREEZE 14 (B,D,F,G,S) Mrs J Hawkins 11-10-0 L Cummins (7)

4-1 On My Toes, 5-1 Hello Me Man, 6-1 Nautical Jewel, 7-1 Scud Missile, Desert Force, 8-1 Five Flags, Prime Display, 10-1 others.

4.00 MAID MARION HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,110: 2m) (11)

1 816- WILLY STAR 121 (D,G,S) Mrs S Sadler 7-11-10 R Guest
2 211- ANTIGUAN FLYER 38 (V,CD,F,G) G Prodromou 8-11-3 A P McCoy
3 43-2 HIGH LOW 2F (D,F,S) M Hammond 9-10-13 N Horrocks (7)
4 00F- PEGASUS BAY 207 (CD,F) D Cantillon 6-10-11 K Gaule
5 36P- ERINY 43 (D,F,S) J J Quinn 8-10-9 L Wyer
6 4U3- DAILY SPORT GIRL 26F (CD,F,G,S) B Llewellyn 8-10-6 Mr J L Llewellyn
7 24-1 IRIE MON 14 (CD,F) M Bielby 5-10-6 M A Fitzgerald
8 54-0 SHARP SENSATION 7 (D,F) G Harker 7-10-6 F Leahy
9 353- BIGWHEEL BILL 52 (V,C,F,G) J Jenkins 8-10-3 N Williamson
10 31F- SHIFTING MOON 57 (F) F Jordan 5-10-0 S Wynne
11 030- TANGO MAN 21 (B,BF,F) J O'Shea 5-10-0 G Lee (3)

4-1 Antiguan Flyer, 5-1 Irie Mon, High Low, 6-1 Shifting Moon, 7-1 Willy Star, Daily Sport Girl, Bigwheel Bill, 10-1 others.

4.35 SHERIFF OF NOTTINGHAM NOVICES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£1,784: 2m 4f 110yd) (8)

1 02P- ESKIMO KISS 82 (BF) G Johnson Houghton 4-12-0 P Henley
2 0U2- CODE RED 7F J Ffitch-Heyes 4-11-13 L Aspell
3 06-3 LITTLE REDWING 16 (V) M Hammond 5-11-5 N Horrocks (5)
4 001- BRIGHT ECLIPSE 47 (V,F) J O'Shea 4-11-5 G Lee
5 0P4- A BADGE TOO FAR 24 (B) Mrs L Williamson 7-10-13 E Husband
6 6U-3 CHARLVIC 14 (B) W Cunningham 7-10-10 L McGrath (5)
7 330- AGAINST THE CLOCK 50 P Bowen 5-10-7 L Cummins (3)
8 00-P MEADOWLECK 15 W Young 8-10-5 S Melrose (3)

9-4 Bright Eclipse, 3-1 Code Red, 4-1 Little Redwing, 6-1 Eskimo Kiss, 7-1 Against The Clock, 8-1 Charlvic, 12-1 A Badge Too Far, 20-1 Meadowleck.

5.05 KING JOHN INTERMEDIATE NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,203: 2m) (13)

1 21- STORMHILL STAG 23 (D,F) P Bowen 5-11-11 L Cummins (7)
2 0 BENICIA BOY 7 J McConnochie 5-11-4 L Aspell (3)
3 00- BERNERA 38 J Mackie 5-11-4 E Husband (3)
4 JOVIAN POND P Webber 5-11-4 Mr P Scott
5 /5-3 SWYNFORD KING 7 J Bottomley 5-11-4 F Leahy (3)
6 BELLE BUSK Mrs S Smith 5-10-13 R Wilkinson (5)
7 BRAWE C Grant 4-10-13 S Melrose (7)
8 0- HIGH IN THE SKY 42 J Jenkins 4-10-13 P Henley (3)
9 3- MASTER BRADAN 68 A Mulholland 4-10-13 J Supple (3)
10 P PENDLETON 7 P Beaumont 4-10-13 B Grattan (5)
11 4 ANNIE'S KITCHEN 7 M W Easterby 4-10-8 Mr K R O'Ryan
12 0- ARCTIC AFFAIR 31 K Morgan 4-10-8 N Horrocks (7)
13 00-5 TRUTHFULLY 7 S Gollings 4-10-8 Mr R Thornton (3)

2-1 Stormhill Stag, 4-1 Swynford King, 5-1 Annie's Kitchen, 6-1 Master Bradan, 8-1 Jovian Pond, Truthfully, 10-1 High In The Sky, 12-1 others.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Royal Ascot

Going: good, good to soft in places

2.30 WINDSOR CASTLE STAKES (2-Y-O: £19,773: 5f)

ASFURAH bb f Dayjur - Mathkurh (Godolphin) 8-6 R Hills (7-1) 1.

Cortachy Castle ch c Pips Pride - Maricica (Mrs E Lerpiniere) 8-13 Pat Eddery (11-2 fav) 2.

Aurigny b f Treasure Time - Dear Glenda (J & S Kelly) 8-8 T Quinn (40-1) 3.

ALSO RAN: 7 Contrary Mary, Shegardi, 15-2 Alfiglia (5th), 10 Wandering Wolf, 11 One Singer (6th), 14 Lord Kintyre (4th), 16 Classy Cleo, 20 Lady Moll, Quiz Show, Vice Presidential, 33 Minetta. 14 ran. NR: Blushing Victoria. Nk, 1½l, sh hd, 1½l, 1l. Saeed bin Suroor at Newmarket. Tote: £7.90; £3.20, £2.00, £13.60. DF: £26.30. Trio: £365.70. CSF: £35.73.

3.05 HARDWICKE STAKES (Group II: £74,510: 1m 4f)

PREDAPPIO b c Polish Precedent - Khalafiya (Godolphin) 4-8-12 Gary Stevens (6-1) 1.

Pilsudski b c Polish Precedent - Cocotte (Lord Weinstock) 5-9-0 M J Kinane (2-1 fav) 2.

Whitewater Affair ch f Machiavellian - Much Too Risky (J M Greetham) 4-8-6 O Peslier (12-1) 3.

ALSO RAN: 6 King Alex, 7 Lady Carla, 8 Dushyantor (6th), 11 Busy Flight, 14 Royal Court (4th), 20 Ela-Aristokrati (5th), 33 Mongol Warrior. 10 ran. ½l, 2½l, 3½l, 1l, ½l. Saeed bin Suroor at Newmarket. Tote: £6.60; £2.10, £1.50, £2.60. DF: £5.00. Trio: £25.90. CSF: £16.58.

3.45 WOKINGHAM STAKES (Handicap: £48,013: 6f)

SELHURSTPARK FLYER b g Northiam - Wisdom To Know (C Deuters) 6-8-9 P Roberts (25-1) 1.

Danetime b c Danehill - Allegheny River (M Tabor & Mrs J Magnier) 3-8-4 Gary Stevens (7-1 fav) 2.

Bollin Joanne b f Damister - Bollin Zola (Lady Westbrook) 4-9-7 K Fallon (12-1) 3.

Oggi gr g Efisio - Dolly Bevan (Skyline Racing Ltd) 6-8-6 R Cochrane (10-1) 4.

ALSO RAN: 9 Best Before Dawn, 11 Tumbleweed Ridge, 12 Double Bounce, Perryston View, 14 Prince Babar, 16 Alamein, 20 Emerging Market, Sea-Deer, Wildwood Flower, 25 Astrac, Bold Effort, World Premier, Youdontsay, 33 Albert The Bear, Hello Mister, Mr Bergerac, To The Roof (6th), Warning Time (5th), 40 Paris Babe, 50 Hoh Returns, Royal Aty, 66 Cretan Gift, King of Peru, Patsy Grimes, Repertory, Rushcutter Bay. 30 ran. Hd, 1l, ½l, nk, 1½l. J Berry at Cockerham. Tote: £31.90; £6.00, £3.10, £2.80, £1.80. DF: £313.30. Trio: £943.50. CSF: £148.05. Tricast: £2,077.72.

4.20 KING'S STAND STAKES (Group II: £73,512: 5f)

DON'T WORRY ME b f Dancing Dissident - Diva Encore (J Gribomont) 5-8-13 O Peslier (33-1) 1.

Titus Livius ch c Machiavellian - Party Doll (Niarchos Family) 4-9-2 C Asmussen (7-1 jt-fav) 2.

Hever Golf Rose b m Efisio - Sweet Rosina (Hever Racing Club) 6-8-13 Pat Eddery (7-1 jt-fav) 3.

ALSO RAN: 7-1 jt-fav Almaty, 8 Ya Malak, 10 Bolshoi, 11 Easycall (5th), 12 Compton Place, Deep Finesse, Rambling Bear, 16 Croft Pool, Struggler (6th), 20 Cathedral, Check The Band, Royale Figurine, 33 Averti (4th), Brave Edge, 66 Sylva Paradise. 18 ran. Nk, 1l, 1l, ½l, ½l. G Henrot at France. Tote: £21.90; £5.10, £2.20, £1.70. DF: £38.70. Trio: £50.20. CSF: £218.69.

4.55 KING EDWARD VII STAKES (Group II: 3-Y-O: £73,384: 1m 4f)

KINGFISHER MILL ch c Riverman - Charming Life (Lord Howard de Walden) 8-8 Pat Eddery (9-4 fav, Richard Evans's nap and Newmarket Correspondent's nap) 1.

Palio Sky b c Niniski - Live Ammo (J E Nash) 8-8 M J Kinane (9-2) 2.

Musical Dancer ch c Dixieland Band - Parrish Empress (M al-Maktoum) 8-8 K Fallon (13-2) 3.

ALSO RAN: 5-2 Panama City (4th), 9-2 Solo Mio (5th). 5 ran. NR: Shaya. 8l, 1½l, 3½l, 3l. Mrs J Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £2.50; £1.40, £2.40. DF: £6.80. CSF: £11.05.

5.30 QUEEN ALEXANDRA STAKES (£19,164: 2m 6f 34yd)

CANON CAN ch g Green Dancer - Lady Argyle (Canon (Anglia) O A Ltd) 4-9-1 K Fallon (8-1) 1.

Old Rouvel b g Riverman - Marie de Russy (Mrs R Cowell) 6-9-0 M J Kinane (13-2) 2.

Deraydan b h Kahyasi - Delsy (D A Johnson) 5-9-0 R Hughes (11-2 jt-fav) 3.

ALSO RAN: 11-2 jt-fav Bahamian Sunshine, 7 Speed To Lead, 10 Cuff Link (4th), General Assembly, 12 French Holly, 16 Aardwolf (5th), Pleasure Shared, 20 Inchcailloch (6th), 25 Premier Night, 33 Nazmi. 13 ran. NR: Fieldridge. Nk, 27l, 1½l, 3l, 20l. H Cecil at Newmarket. Tote: £9.40; £3.70, £2.80, £2.60. DF: £43.50. Trio: £94.20. CSF: £51.39. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £242,983.62 carried forward to Ascot today).

Placepot: £212.60.

Quadpot: £47.50.

Ayr

Going: good

2.10 (1m) 1, Running Green (T Siddall, 7-2 fav); 2, Miletrian City (9-1); 3, Shontaine (6-1). 12 ran. Hd, 1½l. D Moffatt. Tote: £4.10; £1.30, £4.10, £2.40. DF: £22.30. Trio: £24.80. CSF: £30.82. Tricast: £167.52. No bid.

2.45 (6f) 1, Aix En Provence (J Weaver, 3-1 jt-fav); 2, Prix Star (3-1 jt-fav); 3, Fundance (4-1). Quiz Master 3-1 jt-fav. 8 ran. 3½l, 1½l. M Johnston. Tote: £2.20; £1.50, £1.60, £1.30. DF: £4.80. CSF: £9.37.

3.20 (5f) 1, Squire Corrie (A Culhane, 6-4 fav); 2, That Man Again (7-1); 3, Rich Glow (8-1). 9 ran. 1l, hd. D Chapman. Tote: £2.10; £1.20, £2.20, £1.80. DF: £8.60. Trio: £36.50. CSF: £9.42. Tricast: £47.82. After a stewards' inquiry, Garnock Valley and Johayro, who finished fourth and fifth respectively, had their placings reversed.

3.55 (7f) 1, Winsome George (N Kennedy, 5-1); 2, Hogait (5-1); 3, Lakeland Pride (8-1). Love Academy 1-2 fav. 6 ran. 3l, sh hd. C Fairhurst. Tote: £6.40; £2.40, £2.30. DF: £16.00. CSF: £28.41.

4.30 (1m 1f) 1, Can Can Lady (J Weaver, 100-30); 2, Stone Flower (11-1); 3, Neronian (3-1). Minersville 7-4 fav. 6 ran. 2l, 5l. M Johnston. Tote: £4.30; £2.20, £2.60. DF: £18.90. CSF: £30.98.

5.05 (1m 5f 13yd) 1, Ledgendry Line (A Culhane, 5-2 fav); 2, Winnebago (3-1); 3, Indigo Dawn (5-1). 7 ran. 3l, 2l. Mrs M Reveley. Tote: £3.50; £2.90, £1.80. DF: £8.10. CSF: £8.33.

Placepot: £77.20.

Quadpot: £18.30.

Redcar

Going: good, good to firm in places

2.20 (5f) 1, Ouaisne (P Bloomfield, 12-1); 2, Dangerman (10-1); 3, Boulevard Rouge (11-4). Cumbrian Cadet 6-4 fav. 9 ran. 5l, ½l. R Guest. Tote: £9.30; £2.20, £3.80, £1.50. DF: £101.80. Trio: not won (pool of £145.61 carried forward to 2.30 at Royal Ascot today) CSF: £114.27.

2.55 (1m 2f) 1, Zorba (D McKeown, 9-4 jt-fav); 2, My Millie (100-30); 3, Guesstimation (9-4 jt-fav). 8 ran. 5l, 6l. C Thornton. Tote: £3.20; £1.10, £1.20, £1.10. DF: £4.20. CSF: £10.30.

3.30 (6f) 1, Daawe (M Deering, 4-1 fav); 2, Saint Express (14-1); 3, Bee Health Boy (13-2). 10 ran. 1½l, 1l. Mrs V Aconley. Tote: £3.60; £1.50, £3.30, £2.60. DF: £31.90. Trio: £29.00. CSF: £60.04. Tricast: £343.36.

4.05 (7f) 1, Swift (J Tate, 7-1); 2, Pension Fund (9-2); 3, Rock Island Line (11-4 fav). 10 ran. NR: Indian Brave. 2l, nk. M Polglase. Tote: £14.50; £4.00, £1.60, £1.40. DF: £38.80. Trio: £48.80. CSF: £38.31. Tricast: £105.56.

4.40 (1m 6f 19yd) 1, Media Star (J Carroll, 5-1); 2, San Glamore Melody (6-1); 3, Stoned Imaculate (20-1). Azores 5-6 fav. 6 ran. NR: Annaletta. 11l, ½l. J Gosden. Tote: £3.50; £3.30, £3.20. DF: £8.90. CSF: £28.94. Annaletta (12-1) withdrawn, not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 5p in pound.

5.15 (1m 3f) 1, Gee Bee Boy (D Wright, 11-4 fav); 2, Pointe Fine (7-1); 3, Quest For Best (4-1). 8 ran. 4l, ½l. A Jarvis. Tote: £3.60; £2.00, £2.40, £2.30. DF: £13.80. CSF: £24.53.

Placepot: £102.70.

Quadpot: £15.80.

AYR

THUNDERER

2.15 Baby Grand. 2.45 Nifty Norman. 3.15 Percy Isle. 3.45 Ocker. 4.15 Greatest. 4.45 Yet Again.

GOING. GOOD SIS
DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.15 SEAFIELD NOVICE AUCTION STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,781: 5f) (5 runners)

1 051 PREMIUM PURSUIT 14 (G) R Fahey 9-4 A Culhane 1
2 3411 BABY GRAND 15 (D,F,G) T Barron 8-12 Kimberley Hart (7) 3
3 3512 ALWAYS LUCKY 15 (D,G) J Berry 8-7 P Fessey (5) 4
4 BARRELBIO J J O'Neill 8-5 G Duffield 5
5 4 RHINEFIELD BEAUTY 51 J Goldie 8-0 T Williams 2

7-4 Baby Grand, 9-4 Always Lucky, 4-1 Premium Pursuit, 9-2 Rhinefield Beauty, 14-1 Barrelbio.

2.45 GOLF EVENTS HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £5,313: 5f) (6)

1 3-41 FURNISH 14 (D,G) B Hills 9-7 D Holland 3
2 1003 NIGHT FLIGHT 17 (G) J J O'Neill 8-13 G Duffield 4
3 2160 SILENT MIRACLE 7 (G) M Bell 8-10 A Culhane 5
4 1031 LEVELLED 5 (D,F,G) M Channon 8-10 (7ex) P P Murphy (3) 1
5 3-10 NIFTY NORMAN 17 (D,S) J Berry 8-7 T E Durcan (5) 6
6 340- MARTINE 273 A Bailey 8-4 Iona Wands (5) 2

6-4 Furnish, 4-1 Night Flight, 9-2 Silent Miracle, 5-1 Levelled, 7-1 Nifty Norman, 14-1 Martine.

3.15 TENNENT CALEDONIAN BREWERIES TROPHY RATED HANDICAP (£6,011: 1m 7f) (5)

1 6414 DIRAB 36 (F,G,S) T Barron 4-10-0 L Charnock 4
2 0-34 SECRET SERVICE 26 (F) C Thornton 5-9-9 D McKeown 5
3 -213 PERCY ISLE 35 (F) M Stoute 3-9-4 G Duffield 1
4 414- GO WITH THE WIND 15J (F) J Goldie 4-9-3 R Mullen (5) 3
5 -331 IN QUESTION 12 (F) B Hills 3-9-3 D Holland 2

5-4 In Question, 3-1 Percy Isle, 5-1 Secret Service, 6-1 Dirab, 10-1 Go With The Wind.

3.45 ROMAN WARRIOR SHIELD MAIDEN STAKES
(£3,435: 7f) (8)

1 05- FIZZY BOY 280J P Monteith 4-9-7 P Fessey (3) 6
2 00 LAKE ARIA 12 Mrs A Naughton 4-9-2 J Bramhill (5) 2
3 BALLANTRAE BOY R McKellar 3-8-12 G Duffield 7
4 0 BERNIE'S STAR 47 N Bycroft 3-8-12 L Charnock 1
5 2-58 OCKER 43 M Tompkins 3-8-12 Dale Gibson 8
6 -504 DUNDEL 9 B Hills 3-8-7 D Holland 4
7 20-3 LITERARY 18 (BF) J Gosden 3-8-7 G Hind 3
8 2- NATIVE RHYTHM 382 (BF) P Chapple-Hyam 3-8-7 R Havlin (3) 5

6-4 Literary, 7-4 Dundel, 9-2 Native Rhythm, 6-1 Ocker, 8-1 others.

4.15 ARRAN HANDICAP (£3,093: 7f) (13)

1 1120 GREATEST 87 (B,D,BF,F,G) G Kelleway 6-9-12 R Mullen (5) 6
2 -402 STATOYORK 23 (CD,BF,F) B Hills 4-9-8 D Holland 7
3 -002 SUPERPRIDE 31 (CD,G,S) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-3 A Culhane 1
4 4300 MYTTONS MISTAKE 17 (CD,F) A Bailey 4-9-2 Iona Wands (5) 9
5 2340 DICTATION 4 J J O'Neill 5-9-0 G Duffield 12
6 0-40 MKAPEN ROCKS 33 J H Wilson 4-8-13 P Fessey (3) 4
7 2500 STEPHENSONS ROCKET 19 (C,F,G,S) R Fahey 6-8-9 G Hind 11
8 0041 MISTER WESTSOUND 3 (B,C,F,S) Miss L Perratt 5-8-2 (6ex) N Kennedy 13
9 0032 PLEASURE TRICK 12 (D,F,G) E Incisa 6-8-1 Kim Tinkler 2
10 -003 SUEDORO 3 (F) J Goldie 7-7-13 J Bramhill (5) 10
11 0040 TERMON 19 (G) Miss L Perratt 4-7-12 N Carlisle 5
12 0-10 MISS PIGALLE 21 (D,F,S) Miss L Perratt 6-7-11 L Charnock 3
13 5000 SWEET CISEAUX 19 (D,F) M Heaton-Ellis 4-7-10 Dale Gibson 8

5-2 Statoyork, 6-1 Superpride, 8-1 Mister Westsound, Pleasure Trick, 9-1 Greatest, 10-1 Dictation, Suedoro, 12-1 others.

4.50 DOONFOOT HANDICAP
(£2,864: 1m 2f 192yd) (16)

1 -052 WESTMINSTER 5 (V,F) M Tompkins 5-10-0 P Clarke (7) 4
2 4630 FORZAIR 15 (V,G) J J O'Neill 5-9-4 D McKeown 7
3 6142 YET AGAIN 10 (D,F,G) G Kelleway 5-9-1 R Mullen (5) 10
4 1/16 SILVER PEARL 10 (BF,S) Mrs A Naughton 6-8-8 J Bramhill (5) 15
5 -024 SNOWY MANTLE 25 J Bethell 4-8-7 T Williams 8
6 5623 MCGILLYCUDDY REEKS 11 (F) E Incisa 6-8-6 Kim Tinkler 6
7 4146 PHILGEM 8 (G,S) C Fairhurst 4-8-4 N Kennedy 16
8 0/0- THISONESFORALICE 413J (F,S) J Goldie 9-8-3 A Eddery (7) 11
9 00-0 VINTAGE TAITTINGER 7J (G) J Goldie 5-8-0 P Fessey (3) 14
10 -500 SHAMOKIN 48 F Watson 5-7-12 Kimberley Hart (7) 3
11 000- CHANSON D'AMOUR 264 Miss L Perratt 3-7-11 N Carlisle 2
12 0-00 EMILY-JAYNE 30 Mrs M Reveley 3-7-10 Iona Wands (5) 1
13 -560 BRUZ 21 L Lungo 6-7-10 Dale Gibson 9
14 0050 RAPID MOVER 10 (B,D,S) D Nolan 10-7-10 K Sked (5) 12
15 0644 CAROL AGAIN 8 (B,D,G) N Bycroft 5-7-10 L Charnock 5
16 0000 BOUT 25 R McKellar 3-7-10 J McAuley (7) 13

2-1 Yet Again, 11-2 Silver Pearl, 6-1 Snowy Mantle, 13-2 Westminster, 10-1 McGillycuddy Reeks, 12-1 Carol Again, 14-1 Philgem, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: B Hills, 17 winners from 48 runners, 35.4%; M Stoute, 9 from 26, 34.6%; P Chapple-Hyam, 9 from 32, 28.1%; M Tompkins, 4 from 19, 21.1%; J Gosden, 5 from 25, 20.0%.

JOCKEYS: D Holland, 12 winners from 50 rides, 24.0%; J Bramhill, 4 from 23, 17.4%; R Havlin, 4 from 27, 14.8%; L Charnock, 9 from 74, 12.2%; D McKeown, 7 from 70, 10.0%. Only qualifiers.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER

7.00 Mogul. 7.30 Doctor Bravious. 8.00 Water Garden. 8.25 Intiaash. 8.55 Michelee. 9.25 In The Money.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
8.00 WATER GARDEN (nap).

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

7.00 WALSALL MAIDEN HANDICAP
SKY
(3-Y-O: £2,277: 1m 1f 79yd) (9 runners)

1 D000 MOGUL 29 N Graham 9-7 A McGlone 1
2 -230 DON'T WORRY MIKE 42 F Lee 9-1 S Whitworth 2
3 -050 SPANISH WARRIOR 29 J Hills 8-11 M Rimmer 7
4 5363 POKER PRINCESS 10 M Bell 8-8 M Fenton 6
5 0000 GRAND HOTEL 19 P Harris 8-3 B Doyle 4
6 00-0 GADROON 41 P Haslam 7-10 R Winston (7) 8
7 600- MOOR HALL PRINCESS 294 N Babbage 7-10 Aimee Cook (5) 5
8 0560 PETULA BOY 5 S Bowring 7-10 P Doe (7) 3
9 8440 GOLD CLIPPER 12 M Ryan 7-10 A McCarthy (7) 9

15-8 Poker Princess, 11-4 Spanish Warrior, 7-2 Mogul, 4-1 Don't Worry Mike, 16-1 Grand Hotel, Gadroon, Gold Clipper, 25-1 others.

7.30 WILLENHALL CLAIMING STAKES
SKY
(£2,277: 1m 100yd) (9)

1 5400 DOCTOR BRAVIOUS 21 (V,CD,S) M Bell 4-9-9 G Faulkner (5) 5
2 00-0 RIVERS MAGIC 19 (G) J Bridger 4-9-9 Sophie Mitchell 1
3 4060 DRAGONJOY 28 (V,CD,G) N Littmoden 4-9-7 D McGaffin (7) 3
4 BLUE HAVANA 22J G Roe 5-9-0 M Fenton 2
5 -180 ARCATURA 25 (G) C James 5-8-13 C Teague (3) 9
6 1065 BON GUEST 8 (D,G) T Naughton 3-8-11 S Sanders 6
7 0009 PEOPLE DIRECT 14 (CD,G) K McAuliffe 4-8-10 J F Egan 8
8 2-06 SHEILAS DREAM 12 G L Moore 4-8-10 S Whitworth 7
9 000- MILL DANCER 118J (D,F,S) J O'Shea 5-8-6 R Winston (7) 4

5-2 Bon Guest, 11-4 Arcatura, 7-2 Doctor Bravious, 13-2 Dragonjoy, 8-1 others.

8.00 ROTHMANS ROYALS HANDICAP
SKY
(£5,258: 1m 100yd) (7)

1 5000 CONCER UN 26 (D,F,G,S) S Williams 5-10-0 J Fortune 5
2 4451 CASHMERE LADY 4 (CD,G) J Eyre 5-9-3 (6ex) D Pears (3) 3
3 6061 ALSAHIB 14 (C,G) W Muir 4-8-13 T Sprake 7
4 2013 BROUGHTONS TURMOIL 41 (D,F) B Millman 8-8-5 A Whelan (3) 2
5 8018 THEATRE MAGIC 2 (C,G) D Shaw 4-8-5 J Fanning 1
6 3312 BENTICO 7 (V,CD,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 8-8-1 B Doyle 4
7 0-11 WATER GARDEN 44 (G) G Wragg 3-8-1 A Clark 6

13-8 Water Garden, 4-1 Broughtons Turmoil, 5-1 Bentico, Alsahib, 8-1 others.

8.25 DUDLEY HANDICAP (£3,614: 6f) (12)

1 2413 ROBO MAGIC 22 (C,D,F,G) L Montague Hall 5-10-0 F Lynch 3
2 5840 THE HAPPY FOX 17 (B,C,F,G) B McMahon 5-9-12 L Newton 2
3 6145 FIRST MAITE 12 (B,C,D,G) S Bowring 4-9-11 S Webster 8
4 6-16 PAGEBOY 130 (CD,F,G) P Haslam 8-9-9 J Fortune 5
5 0422 PRIMA SILK 7 (CD,F,G) M Ryan 6-9-8 A Clark 12
6 2325 BROADSTAIRS BEAUTY 28 (D,F,G,S) D Shaw 7-9-7 C Teague (3) 6
7 3030 ALPINE HIDEAWAY 14 (F) B Hanbury 4-9-8 J Stack 7
8 9-00 OBERON'S DART 31 (C,G) P Makin 4-9-3 S Sanders 11
9 0400 DEPRECIATE 7 (D,G) C James 4-9-2 J F Egan 10
10 3101 INTIAASH 41 (CD,F,G,S) D Haydn Jones 5-9-0 J Carroll 1
11 2163 NAPIER STAR 3 (V,C,D,G) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-12 B Doyle 9
12 -040 EVERSET 8 (CD,F,G,S) A Bailey 9-8-10 D Wright 4

3-1 Intiaash, 11-2 Prima Silk, 13-2 Robo Magic, 7-1 Napier Star, 8-1 others.

8.55 OSWESTRY SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £1,985: 6f) (6)

1 01 MICHELEE 14 (CD,G) P Evans 8-11 J F Egan 6
2 0 RISKNOWT GETNOWT 33 (B) T Wall 8-11 S Sanders 1
3 0 IMPISH LADY 11 M Meade 8-6 R Brisland (7) 2
4 2323 JACK-N-JILLY 14 J S Moore 8-6 M Henry (3) 3
5 0 JONATHAN'S GIRL 10 J Bridger 8-6 Sophie Mitchell 5
6 422 MEDINA MISS 5 W G M Turner 8-6 D Sweeney (5) 4

13-8 Medina Miss, 15-8 Michelee, 9-4 Jack-N-Jilly, 20-1 Impish Lady, Jonathan's Girl, 25-1 Risknowt Getnowt.

9.25 CODSALL HANDICAP (£2,277: 1m 4f) (11)

1 6653 STATE APPROVAL 19 (CD,F,G) P Eccles 4-9-12 G Faulkner (5) 1
2 -410 RIVER CAPTAIN 84 (G) D Murray Smith 4-9-8 S Whitworth 11
3 0334 IN THE MONEY 4 (CD,F,G) R Hollinshead 8-9-8 F Lynch 6
4 0400 STONECUTTER 14 (V,C,G) W Muir 4-9-7 J Fortune 9
5 0500 URGENT REPLY 18 C Dwyer 4-9-6 J Carroll 7
6 0102 WILDFIRE 56 (D,G,S) R Akehurst 6-9-1 S Sanders 2
7 1510 FRESH FRUIT DAILY 21J (CD,F,G) P Kelleway 5-9-0 D Biggs 3
8 -000 GENERAL GLOW 33 (D,F) P Evans 4-8-13 J F Egan 4
9 430- SOMMERSBY 217 (CD,G) Mrs N Macauley 6-8-12 B Doyle 5
10 0230 AFRICAN-PARD 25 D Haydn Jones 5-8-9 A Clark 8
11 00-3 COURSE FISHING 15 (D,F) B McMahon 6-7-11 L Newton 10

9-4 Course Fishing, 4-1 State Approval, 11-2 Wildfire, Fresh Fruit Daily, 7-1 In The Money, 10-1 River Captain, African-Pard, 12-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: L Montague Hall, 4 winners from 11 runners, 36.4%; G Wragg, 4 from 12, 33.3%; M Meade, 6 from 26, 23.1%; M Bell, 12 from 54, 22.2%; P Haslam, 31 from 162, 19.1%.

JOCKEYS: D Sweeney, 8 winners from 42 rides, 19.0%; M Rimmer, 6 from 33, 18.2%; G Faulkner, 5 from 28, 17.9%; T Sprake, 16 from 117, 13.7%; S Sanders, 37 from 306, 12.1%.

Peintre Celebre returns to action

PEINTRE CELEBRE, the impressive winner of the Prix du Jockey-Club earlier this month, seeks another group one prize in the Grand Prix de Paris over ten furlongs at Longchamp tomorrow. He will again be ridden by Olivier Peslier.

The André Fabre-trained son of Nureyev will have the assistance of a pacemaker, Super Cub, to help offset the two-furlong drop in distance, and a bigger question mark against him will be his ability to handle the testing ground. The going was fast when he won at Chantilly.

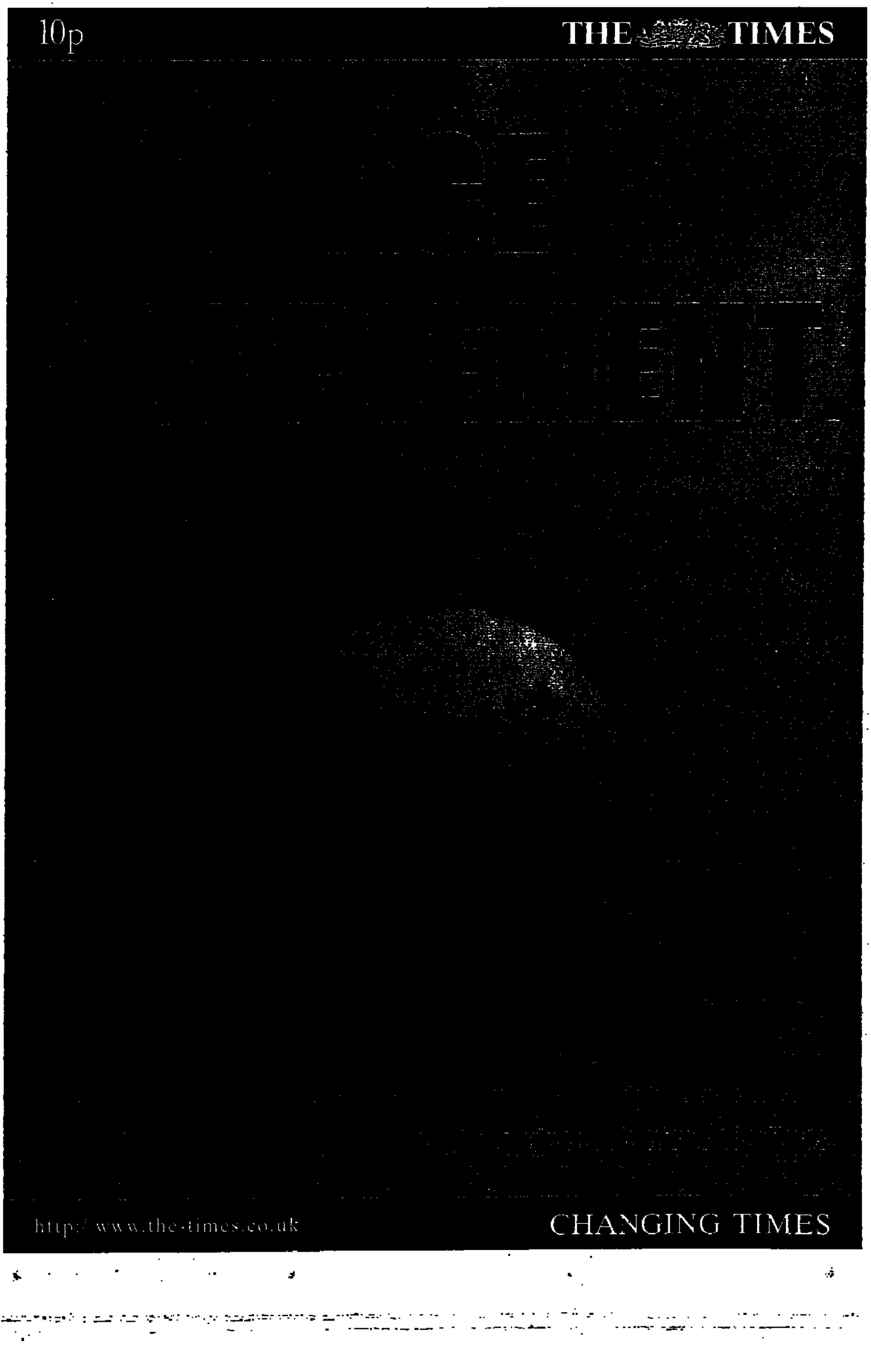
The conditions should suit the only British member of the seven-runner field, Royal Amaretto, trained by Brian Meehan and ridden by Michael Tebbutt. He ran away with a competitive conditions event over this trip at Newbury in April but was subsequently only eleventh of 12 in the Irish 2,000 Guineas.

The field is completed by Ithaki and Shaka, fifth and sixth respectively in the Jockey-Club; Zenith Rose, who was caught close home by the subsequent Derby disappointment, Cloudings, in the group one Prix Lupin; and Alekos, *third* to Shaka in the group two Prix Hocquart.

On the same card, Saeed bin Suroor's Diffident (Frankie Dettori) and the James Fanshawe-trained Craigievar (David Harrison) represent Britain in the group three Prix de la Porte Maillot over seven furlongs. Diffident is certain to start a short-priced favourite as he will be coupled with Fabre's two runners, Earl Of March and Vernoy.

☐ Lady Herries has booked Gary Milligan to partner Taufan's Melody in the eight-runner listed Grand Prix de Lyon over 1½ miles at Lyon-Parilly today.

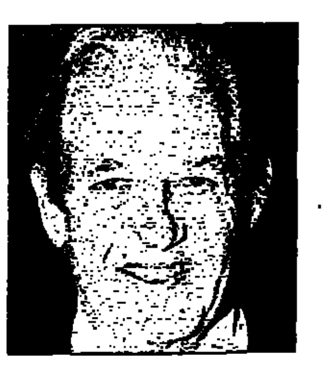
☐ Polar Flight, trained by Mark Johnston, tackles the Austrian Derby at Freudenau tomorrow.



When debonair Compton and war hero Edrich set a Test record

Partnership with a rich ration of runs

JOHN WOODCOCK



Fifty years ago, Edrich, left, and Compton began a 'dream partnership' against South Africa

Fifty years ago today, in the second Test match between England and South Africa at Lord's, Denis Compton and Bill Edrich began the first and the highest of their great partnerships against Alan Melville's South African side. In all England, the only things that were not rationed in that summer of 1947 were thankfulness, sunshine and runs.

Those, for example, who drove from any distance to the Lord's Test match would have needed to pool their petrol coupons. Having arrived, they would have found a ground that was structurally very different from the present one. Virtually all that remains of it as it was then are the pavilion and the Allen Stand — known until 1989 as Q Stand — and even they are much changed.

The Allen Stand has been refurbished to become the social centre of the Middlesex County Cricket Club. The pavilion has been extended to incorporate the old press box — where the secretariat of MCC is now housed — and the professionals' room, which has now become the Bowlers' Bar. Nor is the pavilion swathed any longer in Virginia creeper.

It was from that professionals' room that Compton and Edrich would have taken the field when they first played for Middlesex in the middle 1930s, though not in 1947, by when amateurs and professionals were both using the main dressing rooms. Edrich was to become an amateur, anyway, in 1947, and of Compton it was often said that although he was a professional he played more like an amateur than most amateurs.

While Compton and Edrich were going about their business against Melville's South Africans, Neville Cardus would have been holding court on the coach mound behind where the Warner Stand is now, and watching the cricket at the same time. Not for another 11 years did the Warner replace the low, crescent-shaped enclosure, reserved for members and their friends, over which it was possible to get a view of the play from Cardus's favourite vantage point.

The Test matches of 1947 were of four days, starting on Saturdays and with no Sunday play. On the Saturday at Lord's — June 21 — the gates were closed half an hour before the start, with thousands unable to get a ticket. The official attendance was 30,600, of whom some 3,000 sat on the grass, seven or eight rows deep. By next year, when the new Grand Stand is finished, Lord's will hold 29,500 spectators, all of them separately seated. South Africa had forced England to follow on in the first Test match of 1947 and England were some way from taking charge of the second when Compton came out to join Edrich soon after lunch on the first day. Len Hutton had gone, after batting nearly two hours for 18, and Cyril Washbrook had just been caught at slip off the second new ball, available in those days after only 55 overs.

It seems remarkable now that the spinners got on at all with a new ball to hand every two to three hours; yet in 1947, all round the country, they did most of the bowling. Peter Smith, the busiest of them, sent down 1,606 overs in the season, Ray Smith, his Essex team-mate, 1,557.

Many of the facts of that season may seem more like fiction to the players of today. Batting for Middlesex against Leicestershire at Leicester in August, Compton and Edrich scored 310 in 2hr 20min between lunch and tea; in the same month, the three-day championship match between Surrey and Middlesex at the Oval was watched by 54,000 people; with the spinners hard at it, there were days when six hours' cricket produced 135 overs.

The first day of the Lord's Test match was unusual in that 25 minutes were lost to rain; but, despite that, well over 100 overs were bowled. At close of play, England were 312 for two, Compton 110, Edrich 109. By the time Compton was bowled by Mann on the Monday afternoon, they had made 370 together, then the third-wicket record for all Test cricket.

For South Africa, Athol Rowan and "Tufty" Mann bowled 118 overs in the match. Rowan was a very fine off spinner; Mann, a slow left-armer, had passed much of the early 1940s being sheltered by peasants in Italy after escaping from a prisoner-of-war camp. Edrich's war had brought him a DFC as a bomber pilot and the same calculated aggression identified his batting. Small but very forceful, he spent the summer of 1947 biffing the ball over mid-wicket with his favourite pulled drive or crashing it past cover point off the back foot. Compton was altogether more debonair. His batting was a blend of the orthodox, the instinctive and the outrageous. He responded visibly to environment, and he loved Lord's.

> **'How can we stop Denis?' 'What about bowling over his head?'**

There came a time during this particular partnership with Edrich when the following conversation took place between Rowan and Mann: "How can we stop Denis giving us the charge?" Rowan asked. "What about bowling over his head?" came the reply. "That's an idea, but I'll leave it to you," Rowan said. So Mann duly tried it and Compton, as though standing at the net at Wimbledon, played an overhead smash to the Tavern boundary.

Another game, another world, fewer restraints, a much less rigorous formula.

MINOR COUNTIES CRICKET

Youth policy achieves quick results

By Michael Austin

PHILIP OLIVER, coach to the Minor Counties, believes the decision to field a team of players under the age of 25 in the Aon Risk Trophy is already proving beneficial.

"During our two previous years in what was the Bain Hogg Trophy, we had no self-imposed age restriction," he said, "but this summer, we have already produced our best results in the three years, with two wins, two defeats and a 'no result' game."

Oliver believes that as a result of regular exposure to county opposition, four of his team have shown talent that could bring them contracts with first-class counties. He believes Adam Heather, a Northumberland left-hander, and Jonathan Fielding, of Cumberland, are batsmen of potential and says the Staffordshire fast-medium bowler, Alan Richardson, and Simon Oakes, another right-arm quick bowler, from Lincolnshire, could also make the grade at a higher level. Oakes, who has attracted the interest of Essex and Nottinghamshire in recent weeks, had the distinction last month of taking all ten wickets in an innings for his club, Grantham.

Oliver believes a semi-final place is within reach. "We are second in our group, which is a tough one, and two wins in the final three games next month, against Warwickshire, Northamptonshire and Middlesex, ought to put us through."

Last winter, Oliver and John Shepperd, the Norwich-based team manager, assessed 60 potential squad members during regional sessions and a final meeting at Abbotsholme School.

So far, Minor Counties have beaten Warwickshire on faster scoring rate, Northamptonshire by six runs and lost to Leicestershire and Middlesex by two runs and 36 runs respectively.

Ian Cockbain, the captain of Cheshire and the Minor Counties senior team, was an over-age "guest" in the Middlesex match because of problems with availability. Cockbain, 29, has scored centuries against Wiltshire and Cornwall in the championship this season, but his team, holders of the knockout cup, are not among the 11 Minor Counties involved the first round of the NatWest Trophy next Tuesday. "It's an anomaly." Cockbain said. "Though we are 55-over champions, NatWest qualification is decided by league positions in two-day matches."

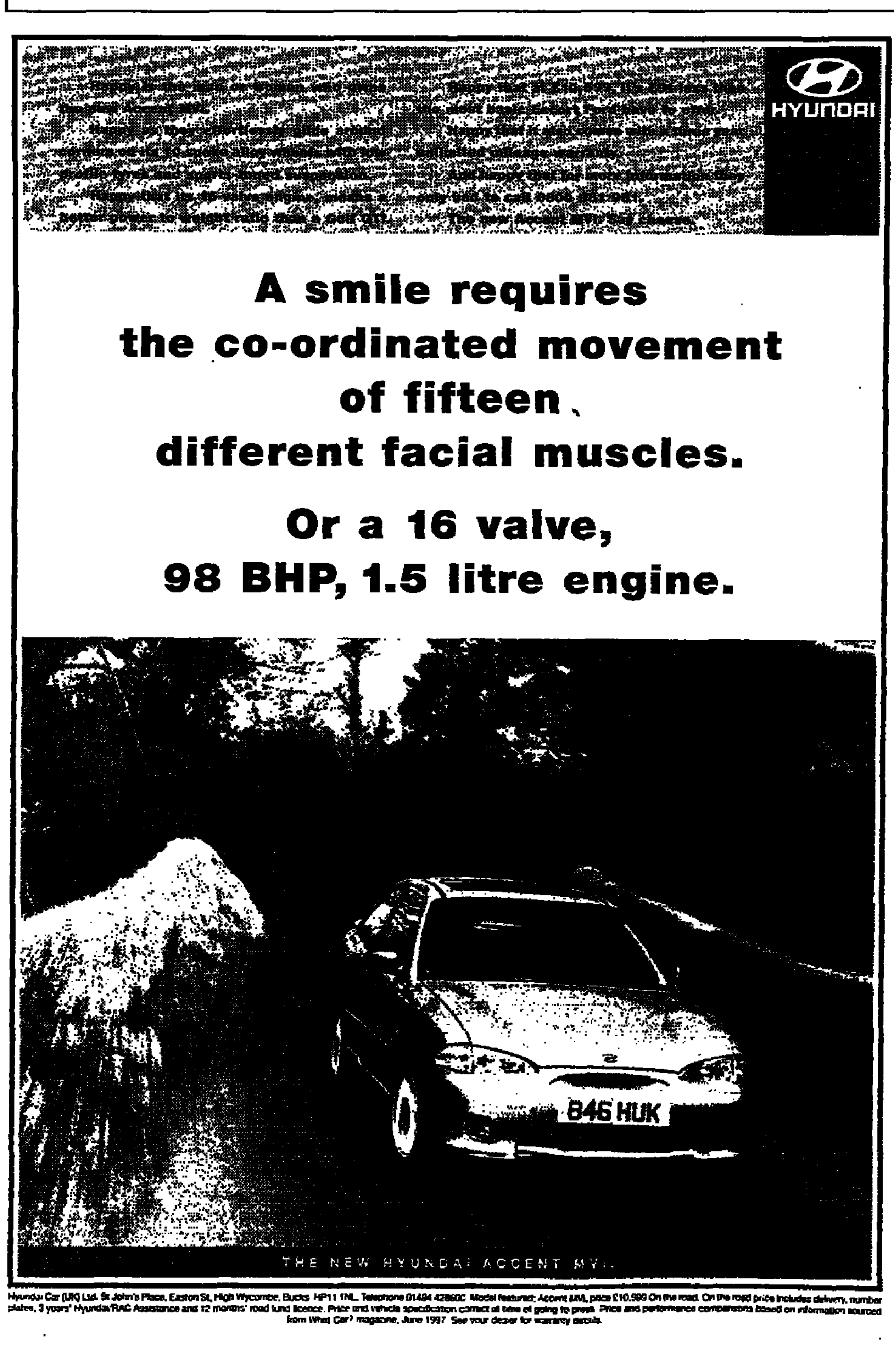
After suffering from double vision last summer, Cockbain has overcome the problem, which had forced him to turn to bowling. He even took a hat-trick for Bootle, insisting that it was having six stumps at which to aim, rather than three, which made it possible.

After Cheshire's elimination from this season's Minor Counties Cup, Cockbain believes that Norfolk, led by the former Derbyshire seam bowler, Paul Newman, will take the trophy. Norfolk trek back to Jesmond for the quarter-final tomorrow, having recently played there against Northumberland in a drawn championship game.

"Our Achilles' heel has been run-chasing," Newman said, "but we aim to put it right. As far as our NatWest match next Tuesday against Warwickshire goes, we want to enjoy it and not worry. It will be the first time I have led a team at Edgbaston, which makes it extra special for me.

"After being on a losing Derbyshire side against Durham, before they had first-class status, and playing for winning Minor Counties representative sides against Sussex and Leicestershire in the Benson and Hedges Cup, I know these games from both angles. Anything can happen."

Two of the minnows will be reinforced by overseas players on Tuesday. Keith Arthurton, the West Indies batsman who plays for High Wycombe, is in the Buckinghamshire team that meets Essex at Beaconsfield because Malcolm Roberts in unavailable. Stuart Macgill, an Australian leg spinner, will appear for Devon against Leicestershire at Exmouth.



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FOOTBALL: RONALDO AND KLUIVERT FACE UNCERTAIN FUTURES

Troubled times for players with the world at their feet

By Brian Glanville

TWO brilliant 20-year-old centre forwards are on their way to play in Milan, each with a plethora of problems, though admittedly very different ones. Ronaldo's transfer to Internazionale from Barcelona has been held up again because Fifa, football's world governing body, has confirmed that Barcelona are entitled to a massive transfer fee, on top of all other charges involved in signing the player — the bagatelle of eight billion pesetas, about £45 million.

Patrick Kluivert, the Holland and Ajax centre forward, signed by AC Milan, is in much deeper waters. He has been accused, with companions, of rape. His lawyers insist that Kluivert played no part in any incident. It is just a year ago that Kluivert was found guilty of running down and killing a man in his car in Amsterdam, but he managed to stay out of jail.

Inter, meanwhile, must come to terms with the fact that, even if they eventually shell out the colossal sums demanded, Ronaldo will be denied them for 15 league games next season. His services will be pre-empted by Brazil, who have already forced Ronaldo to miss Barcelona's final three games of the Spanish league season.

"He's become unpopular in Italy," a Turin sports writer said, "not through his fault, but because of all this 'ballet'. He'll be kicked all over Italy." In such circumstances, Inter may well hang on to their Italian strikers, Branca and Ganz, though Ivan Zamorano, the Chilecentre forward, could be joining Bologna.

Meanwhile, Inter have bought Recoba, the Uruguay international, from Nacional of Montevideo and hope to have Nwankwo Kanu, the gifted 20-year-old Nigeria striker, back in their ranks after his recovery from a heart operation.

As for Milan, who now have Fabio Capello back as coach after his league championship success with Real Madrid, they are certain to sell Roberto Baggio, who must feel that, with his old enemy, Arrigo Sacchi, departing and Capello arriving, he has gone out of the frying pan and into the fire.

Ronaldo: transfer dispute

In becoming coach of Torino — marooned in Italy's *Serie B* and thrashed 4-0 at home by Ravenna last Sunday in their last league match — Graeme Souness has taken on quite a task. Though Denis Law, Joe Baker and Gerry Hitchens all played for Torino in the 1960s, Souness is their first British manager since Bill Livesley perished in the appalling *Superga* air crash in May, 1949.

Souness watched the defeat by Ravenna, but is making optimistic noises. At least he will have on his staff Gigi Lentini, the gifted winger, who has had a fine season on loan from Milan to Atalanta and is overjoyed to be returning to his former club, which sold him to Milan for £13 million, declared only £9 million and is still in trouble with a fistful of authorities.

Milan are one of numerous European clubs keen to sign Denilson, the dazzling 19-year-old Brazilian, but his club, São Paolo, have demanded an £18 million transfer fee, while the player himself is insisting that his new club must triple his £375,000-a-year salary. Denilson said: "Quite simply, I will join the club which pays me most."

Real Madrid obviously value Predrag Mijatovic highly, having yesterday signed the Montenegrin striker to a contract that will not only keep him at the club until 2003, but also stipulates that any club wanting to buy him would have to pay the Spanish champions a world-record fee of $150 million (around £91.5 million).

The previous record for a "withdrawal clause"? That was set only on Wednesday at $100 million for Roberto Carlos, the Brazil defender — by Real Madrid. "I'm the new record-holder, but I'm sure it won't be for long," Mijatovic said.

Murphy makes mark

DANNY MURPHY, the Crewe Alexandra midfield player, scored a hat-trick as England Under-20 overwhelmed their United Arab Emirates counterparts 5-0 to clinch a place in the second round of the world youth championships in Malaysia.

England could have reached double figures as they threatened to score with almost every attack and Al Hammadi, the Emirates' goalkeeper, made a series of errors, including giving away a freak own goal.

Murphy opened the scoring after seven minutes, curling the ball in off the post from outside the area. He made it 2-0 five minutes before half-time, heading home on the six-yard line. Then, shortly after the break, Kieron Dyer, of Ipswich Town, was fouled in the area, and Murphy completed his hat-trick from the penalty spot. Michael Owen, of Liverpool, scored the fourth, and his second of the tournament, with a lob.

The match was summed up by the own goal on 55 minutes, when Abdulla Ahmed passed the ball back to his goalkeeper. It was not the most accurate pass, but Al Hammadi failed to control it and the ball rolled over the line.

Robson to stay with Barcelona

By Our Sports Staff

BOBBY ROBSON has decided not to leave Barcelona at the end of the season, despite the appointment of Louis van Gaal as coach. Robson, who has been linked with the vacancies at Celtic and Everton, was widely expected to move on, but yesterday said that he intends to remain in Spain as general manager.

"I'm honouring my contract," Robson said. "Yes, I've had contact with Everton. I've had no contact with Celtic, although I believe there are stories in the air.

"Because of my contract and because of the fact I want to stay here for another year, I've really had to say no to Everton. If it's no to Everton, then I guess it has to be no to the other club [Celtic]."

The former England manager admitted that he was "not too pleased" at the way he has been treated by Barcelona, but has always insisted that he wanted to stay at what he considers to be the biggest club in the world.

Southampton last night refused to confirm reports that David Jones, the Stockport County manager, will be announced as the successor to Graeme Souness early next week. He was said to have signed a four-year contract worth £200,000 a year. Jones, 41, said: "I have no comment to make at the moment, but I hope to be able to soon."

Jimmy Nicholl, who left Millwall last season, is returning to take charge of Raith Rovers, the club he led to success in the Scottish League Cup two years ago.

The former Norwich City captain, Ian Crook, has signed a one-year contract with the J-League club, Sanfrecce Hiroshima. The midfield player, 34, who was with Tottenham Hotspur from 1979 to 1986, completed negotiations in Japan on Thursday.

Adam Tanner, the Ipswich Town defender, who was suspended for three months last season after failing a drugs test, is to sign a new one-year contract with the Portman Road club.

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CRICKET

Betts swings game significantly in Durham's favour

By Ivo Tennant

DARLINGTON (third day of four): Durham, with two second-innings wickets in hand, are 267 runs ahead of Kent

THIS, as the ancients would have said, was a capital day's cricket. A total of 14 wickets fell, but the state of the pitch had little to do with that. Durham, or rather Melvyn Betts, bowled out Kent, the county championship leaders, for 167 and then collapsed before Martin Speight and James Boiling added 92 for the eighth wicket to ensure that there should be quite a finish.

Durham lead by 267 runs and Speight, having made 73 with six fours and a splendidly swept six off Strang, remains to bat again today. Hence Kent will need to score the biggest total of this absorbing match if they are to win. They will have to do so off, among others, Betts, who, at a lively medium pace, returned career-best figures of seven for 29. Much will depend on whether the ball continues to swing.

Betts is 22 and comes from the mining village of Sacriston, just outside Durham. He had taken only four championship wickets hitherto this season, although this had much to do with missing four matches through injury. He ran in purposefully, swung the ball — not extravagantly — and finished off the Kent innings in the morning by taking five for five. This, Fleming apart, has not been the batting of championship contenders, let alone leaders.

Fleming achieved his best score of the season, an unbeaten 43 to go with his nine wickets in the match, a career-best performance. He is not a cricketer in need of any motivation, but he was not best pleased that the newspaper to which he contributes a column had suggested that he should make way for Ed Smith when the Cambridge University term ends.

Given that Llong had made 15 of his 17 runs overnight, six Kent batsmen contributed only eight runs. Betts took three wickets in one over, Strang, Marsh and McCague all taken behind the wicket or at second slip. The catch that Speight took to dismiss Phillips was quite excellent, being low and one-handed diving to his right. The idea behind him having been coached by Alan Knott is that he could become good enough to play for England in one-day cricket. It is not far-fetched.

Durham gained a first-innings lead of 84. That, though, looked negligible when seven second-innings wickets fell for 77. As when Kent were batting, there were a number of indifferent shots and some creditable swing bowling. Collingwood, transfixed in his crease, was leg-before to Headley, who again deserved better than just one wicket.

The conditions suited Fleming more than they did McCague, for there was little pace in the pitch. In his first over, he bowled Morris with one that moved away and hit off stump. Then Lewis, who looked quite capable of playing another lengthy innings, drove instinctively at a short and wider ball and was taken by Wells at first slip.

Next, Speak edged to second slip, his front foot not to the pitch of one that also swung away from the bat. The important wicket was that of Boon, who, having not scored in the first innings, had no sooner got off the mark than was beaten on the back foot by Strang's top-spinner.

When Strang had Foster taken at the wicket, attempting to force off the back foot, and then Betts left alone a ball from Fleming that broke a stump, Kent would have countenanced a fifth victory in succession. Speight and Boiling had other ideas.

A word about Darlington, renowned only for its train service: its weather has put the rest of the country to shame.

Questions raised at Bath after soaking

By Simon Wilde

BATH (third day of four): Somerset, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 370 runs behind Leicestershire

THE weather has been cruel to the Bath festival in its centenary year and at a time when its future hangs in the balance. Heavy rain prevented there being play until after tea for the second day in succession yesterday and again cut into gate receipts. Such misfortune served as a reminder as to how fortunate Somerset and Bath have been to play here in fine conditions over the past few years.

Peter Anderson, the Somerset chief executive, is obliged to assess the future of the club's annual pilgrimage to the city purely in financial terms. "The festival costs something like £44,000 and we have been without gate receipts for two days," he said. "If we have a good day tomorrow and for the one-day match on Sunday, we might break even."

After Leicestershire had declared at their overnight score of 442 for six, Somerset spent a cheerless 80 minutes before the rain returned fighting for they know not quite what. Leicestershire must be contemplating either trying to dismiss Somerset cheaply twice or creating a situation in which forfeitures set up a run-chase today.

Either way, a thankless task faced Somerset's openers, Lathwell and Bowler, neither of whom is in rich form. Millns, extracting life from the pitch, gave Lathwell a torrid time and had him dropped by Wells at slip before having him caught off a top-edged pull. Bowler fared better and played one or two sweet drives and pulls, but was leg-before in Ormond's third over, beaten for pace.

Holloway was struck on the hand by Millns, but survived until the close along with Harden, at which point Somerset were 70 for two.

Healy collects the edge from Thorpe before making it clear that he had doubts about the validity of the "catch"

Healy catches the right mood

Michael Henderson on the exemplary behaviour of the players at Lord's

As the debate about the altered moods of English cricket crowds gathers pace — and one suspects it will reach some sort of conclusion next month at Leeds, where the spectators put the din in Headingley — there is nothing wrong with the behaviour of the people who are most entitled to get worked up. Players on both sides seem determined to bring the game into repute.

Their behaviour was exemplary at Edgbaston and, in the hour and a half that was possible yesterday morning, there were further signs of the friendly spirit in which this series is being conducted. Mark Butcher, who "walked" at Birmingham, again did not have to be told to leave the crease, while Ian Healy made it clear he had doubts about the validity of a "catch" he initially considered to be true.

Healy has not always been so scrupulous. At Sydney last November, Brian Lara was so upset at being given out caught behind that he publicly denounced Healy and said the wicketkeeper would not be welcome in the West Indies dressing-room — not that it was within his gift to issue any such order. Lara thought Healy was guilty of sharp practice. Better by far to say the Queenslander is the original flinty competitor.

"I wasn't sure whether it carried or not," Healy said last night. "All I knew was that I had a sore finger. The slips were split and I told the umpires that. If I am not sure, I am happy to leave it to them." He added, as a "funny", that when the umpires pronounced "not out" after the divided judgment, he asked: "Why?" He also said that, pleasing though it was to be applauded for his act, he would prefer to see Thorpe, the batsman, applauded back to the pavilion.

Roger Knight, the secretary of MCC, made a public announcement before the start of play, asking spectators to observe the sense of fair play for which Lord's is famous. As a gesture, this was rather like asking the audience at Covent Garden not to throw tomatoes at the stage. At Lord's, for goodness' sake, people know how to behave, although this observation makes some people see red (or perhaps yellow and red). Those are the people who loathe Lord's and, it is true, the pavilion is a bit stuffy at times. There were people taking their seats there yesterday morning for whom the cricket is an annual private ritual and anybody who has seen middle-aged men charging on to the top deck, trying to "bag" seats as soon as the Grace Gates open, knows it can be a pretty demeaning spectacle.

Coming after the last evening at Edgbaston, though, others will have found relief in the calmer atmosphere. What constitutes good manners, of course, is a relative matter. At Lord's, the blood too often runs cold; at Edgbaston, it occasionally ran far too hot. The way this series is building up, it is a good job the players are in control of themselves.

West Indies rescued by Hooper after poor start

By Our Sports Staff

ARNOS VALE (first day of five: Sri Lanka won toss): West Indies have scored 94 for five wickets against Sri Lanka

THE Sri Lanka bowlers vindicated the decision of their captain to field as West Indies struggled to 94 for five at lunch on the opening day of the second and final Test, at the Arnos Vale Playing Field yesterday.

Carl Hooper was the only batsman to master the Sri Lanka bowlers on a lively but true pitch and reached his fifteenth half-century just before lunch.

Sri Lanka, spearheaded by Ravindra Pushpakumara, removed four West Indies batsmen in the first hour and, at one stage, had them five for three. Pushpakumara removed Stuart Williams, who top-edged a hook to the wicketkeeper, and Floyd Reifer, leg-before.

However, the biggest blow came when Brian Lara, trying to turn a ball from Sajeewa DeSilva, offered a return catch to the bowler. Hooper and Sherwin Campbell, the opening batsman, appeared to be pulling West Indies out of trouble before Kumara Dharmasena, the off spinner, produced an unplayable first ball to account for Campbell.

West Indies are fielding an unchanged 11 from the side that won the first Test by six wickets, while Marvan Attapattu and Sanjeeva Ranatunga replace Russell Arnold and Hashan Tillekeratne for Sri Lanka.

SCOREBOARD

WEST INDIES: First Innings
S L Campbell c Mahanama b Dharmasena 20
S C Williams c Kaluwitharana b Pushpakumara 0
F L Reifer lbw b Pushpakumara 0
B C Lara c and b S C de Silva 1
C L Hooper not out 50
R I C Holder c Atapattu b Muralitharan 16
I R Bishop not out 2
Extras (b 3, nb 2) 5
Total (5 wkts) 94
†C O Browne, C E L Ambrose, F A Rose and *C A Walsh to bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-2, 3-5, 4-34, 5-92
BOWLING: S C de Silva 9-2-30-1, Pushpakumara 8-1-29-2, Dharmasena 6-0-25-1, Muralitharan 3-0-7-1
SRI LANKA: S T Jayasuriya, R S Mahanama, M S Atapattu, P A de Silva, *A Ranatunga, S Ranatunga, †R S Kaluwitharana, H D P K Dharmasena, K R Pushpakumara, S C de Silva, M Muralitharan
Umpires: S A Bucknor (West Indies) and D B Cowie (New Zealand)

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Britannic Assurance county championship

Derbyshire v Sussex

DERBY (third day of four): Derbyshire, with one first-innings wicket in hand, are 33 runs ahead of Sussex
SUSSEX: First Innings 200 for 9 dec.
DERBYSHIRE: First Innings
A S Rollins c and b Drakes 0
T A Tweats b Drakes 9
K J Dean lbw b Kirtley 0
K J Barnett b Drakes 24
C J Adams c K Newell b Robinson 53
J E Owen lbw b Kirtley 14
V P Clarke not out 65
†K M Krikken lbw b Drakes 17
*P A J DeFreitas c M Newell b Kirtley 9
P Aldred c Moores b Kirtley 0
A J Harris not out 7
Extras (b 4, lb 13, w 2, nb 16) 35
Total (9 wkts, 58.1 overs) 233
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-3, 3-27, 4-42, 5-82, 6-141, 7-198, 8-209, 9-209
BOWLING: Drakes 22-6-55-4, Kirtley 20.1-4-98-4, Robinson 11-3-41-1, K Newell 6-1-22-0
Bonus points: Derbyshire 5 Sussex 5
Umpires: A Clarkson and T E Jesty

Durham v Kent

DARLINGTON (third day of four): Durham, with two second-innings wickets in hand, are 267 runs ahead of Kent
DURHAM: First Innings 251 (J J B Lewis 158 not out, M V Fleming 5 for 55)
Second Innings
J J B Lewis c Wells b Fleming 30
P D Collingwood lbw b Headley 1
J E Morris b Fleming 21
N J Speak c Llong b Fleming 5
D C Boon lbw b Strang 1
†M P Speight not out 73
M J Foster c Marsh b Strang 4
M M Betts b Fleming 0
J Boiling b Phillips 20
S J E Brown not out 9
Extras (lb 17, w 2) 19
Total (8 wkts) 183
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-52, 3-65, 4-66, 5-66, 6-76, 7-77, 8-169
BOWLING: McCague 9-1-35-0, Headley 11-1-27-1; Phillips 6-1-21-1; Fleming 19-5-34-4; Strang 24-11-45-2; Llong 4-2-4-0
KENT: First Innings
D P Fulton b Foster 31
M J Walker lbw b Betts 6
T R Ward c Speight b Betts 7
A P Wells c Speight b Walker 16
N J Llong b Betts 17
M V Fleming not out 43
B J Phillips c Speight b Betts 1
P A Strang c Speight b Betts 5
*†S A Marsh c Boon b Betts 0
M J McCague c Speight b Betts 0
D W Headley b Brown 0
Extras (b 1, lb 9, w 12, nb 19) 41
Total (57 overs) 167
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-42, 3-77, 4-77, 5-140, 6-146, 7-160, 8-160, 9-160
BOWLING: Brown 18-2-85-1; Betts 16-7-29-7; Walker 13-6-18-1; Foster 6-4-16-1; Collingwood 2-0-6-0; Boiling 2-1-3-0
Bonus points: Durham 6 Kent 4.
Umpires: B Leadbeater and A G T Whitehead.

Northants v Hampshire

NORTHAMPTON (third day of four): Northamptonshire, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 365 runs behind Hampshire
HAMPSHIRE: First Innings
J S Laney lbw b Boswell 4
M L Hayden c Bailey b Taylor 150
K D James b Taylor 56
R A Smith b Hughes 74
W S Kendall lbw b Taylor 0
*J P Stephenson c Ripley b Taylor 49
†A N Aymes c Bailey b Taylor 5
S D Udal b Taylor 18
S J Renshaw not out 2
Extras (b 8, lb 10, w 14, nb 15) 47
Total (8 wkts dec) 405
Score at 120 overs: 398-6.
S M Milburn and J N B Bovill did not bat
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-5, 2-194, 3-273, 4-273, 5-367, 6-373, 7-396, 8-405.
BOWLING: Taylor 32.4-7-91-6, Boswell 21-3-101-1; Hughes 22-6-66-1; Curran 16-7-49-0; Snape 21-5-44-0; Bailey 6-0-13-0; Walton 4-0-22-0.
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE: First Innings
M B Loye c Kendall b Renshaw 13
R J Warren c James b Renshaw 8
*R J Bailey not out 14
K M Curran not out 4
Extras (lb 1) 1
Total (2 wkts, 13 overs) 40
T C Walton, D J G Sales, †D Ripley, J N Snape, J P Taylor, S A J Boswell and J G Hughes to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-33
BOWLING: Milburn 7-1-27-0; Renshaw 6-2-12-2
Bonus points: Northamptonshire 2 Hampshire 4
Umpires: B Dudleston and N T Plews

Notts v Yorkshire

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of four): Nottinghamshire, with three first-innings wickets in hand, are 216 runs behind Yorkshire
YORKSHIRE: First Innings 364 (D Byas 128, D S Lehmann 62, M D Moxon 60; K P Evans 6 for 91)
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings
M N Bowen c Blakey b Silverwood 10
R T Robinson c Byas b White 18
P R Pollard c Stemp b White 26
M P Dowman c Blakey b White 15
N J Astle c Kettleborough b Hartley 28
*P Johnson retired hurt 14
U Afzaal c Byas b Hartley 6
G F Archer not out 10
†W M Noon b White 6
K P Evans not out 5
Extras (lb 4, nb 6) 10
Total (7 wkts, 44.1 overs) 148
R A Pick to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-58, 3-75, 4-82, 5-116, 6-126, 7-134
BOWLING: Silverwood 7-2-21-1; Hartley 15-5-40-2; Morris 9-3-32-0; White 13.1-5-51-4.
Bonus points: Nottinghamshire 4 Yorkshire 7
Umpires: J W Holder and R Palmer

Somerset v Leicestershire

BATH (third day of four): Somerset, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, are 370 runs behind Leicestershire
LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 442 for 6 dec (J J Whitaker 133 not out, I J Sutcliffe 112, V J Wells 70, D L Maddy 58).
SOMERSET: First Innings
M N Lathwell c Sutcliffe b Millns 6
*P D Bowler lbw b Ormond 30
P C L Holloway not out 9
R J Harden not out 12
Extras (b 4, lb 5, w 2, nb 4) 15
Total (2 wkts, 21 overs) 72
K A Parsons, †R J Turner, G D Rose, J I D Kerr, Mushtaq Ahmed, A P van Troost and K J Shine to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-32, 2-42.
BOWLING: Millns 8-4-15-1; Mullally 6-0-27-0; Ormond 6-0-21-1; Pierson 1-1-0-0.
Bonus points: Somerset 2 Leicestershire 4
Umpires: J C Balderstone and G I Burgess.

No play yesterday

BRISTOL (third day of four): Middlesex 237 (K P Dutch 79, M R Ramprakash 75, A M Smith 5 for 23) and 78-6 (J Lewis 4 for 34). Gloucestershire 99 (R L Johnson 4 for 27)
LIVERPOOL (third day of four): Glamorgan 173-1 (S P James 99 not out) v Lancashire
WORCESTER (third day of four): Surrey 452 for 9 dec (J D Ratcliffe 135, A D Brown 124; S R Lampitt 4 for 104). Worcestershire 81-1

University match

Essex v Oxford University

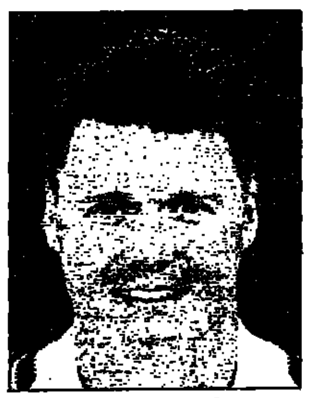
CHELMSFORD (first day of three; Oxford University won toss): Oxford University have scored 65 for five wickets against Essex
OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings
N G Pirihi lbw b Ilott 0
B W Byrne lbw b Ilott 8
*M A Wagh c Law b Williams 2
C G R Lightfoot c Hyam b Williams 16
P G Morgan c Hyam b Law 30
R O Hudson not out 6
L G Buchanan not out 2
Extras (lb 1) 1
Total (5 wkts) 65
C Patel, †A P Senn, J R Cockcroft and C M Batterbee to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-9, 3-15, 4-40, 5-58
BOWLING: Ilott 7-2-14-2; Williams 7-1-26-2; Irani 5-2-13-0; Law 5-3-7-1, Such 4-3-4-0
ESSEX: *P J Prichard, D D J Robinson, A P Grayson, R C Irani, S D Peters, R J Rollins, D R Law, †B J Hyam, M C Ilott, N F Williams, P M Such.
Umpires: B J Meyer and M Benson

Taylor in need of greater support

By Our Sports Staff

IN THE 19 overs that were possible at a soggy Wantage Road yesterday, Hampshire progressed forcefully to 405 for eight, adding 32 to their overnight total for the loss of Adrian Aymes and Shaun Udal. Both wickets fell to Paul Taylor, the Northamptonshire left-arm seamer, giving him the laudable figures of six for 91 and boosting his season's tally to 29, almost half of the county's victims. Of Northamptonshire's last 15 championship wickets, Taylor has captured 13.

With the wicket still proffering ample assistance to the seam bowlers, Hampshire had reduced Northamptonshire to 40 for two when the rain arrived. Simon Renshaw collected the wickets of Russell Warren and Mal Loye, to outstanding catches by Kevan James and Will Kendall in the slip cordon. With 170 overs already lost to the elements, however, the captains will be compelled into collusion to force a result today.



Taylor: laudable figures

It is a bad omen when Carol's Kabin, the Derbyshire mobile drinks and burger bar, fails to arrive by the start of play. The forecasters had reckoned that the rain would arrive at noon, but Carol obviously knew better, as only 58 balls were bowled in 35 minutes before the players took refuge in the pavilion.

The highlight was the cover drive off Drakes, the Sussex fast bowler, that brought up Vince Clarke's fourth fifty of the season and followed his career-best 99 against Warwickshire. This one came off 81 balls and included six fours and one six. He was 65 not out when the rain came. The lead had grown to 29.

James Kirtley took the only wicket to fall in the second full over of the day, when Aldred flashed outside off-stump and edged to Moores.

Nottinghamshire still require 67 runs to avoid the follow on against Yorkshire at Trent Bridge after rain reduced the third day to 56 minutes. The home side, replying to Yorkshire's 364, stumbled from 116 for four to 148 for seven against hostile bowling by Peter Hartley and Craig White in the morning session.

Indeed, the situation is even bleaker for Nottinghamshire as Paul Johnson, the captain, was forced to retire hurt after being struck by a delivery from White. He has fractured the little finger on his left hand and is expected to be out for at least a fortnight.

Hartley claimed two wickets in three overs from the Radcliffe Road End as Astle drove firmly to gully, where Kettleborough took a catch at the second attempt, and Afzaal edged to Byas at second slip. White then uprooted Noon's off stump to claim his fourth wicket of the innings.

Judgment on the pitch at Bristol, where 25 wickets fell on the first two days of the match between Gloucestershire and Middlesex, was deferred when rain prevented investigators from the England and Wales Cricket Board from seeing a ball bowled.

Steve James, the Glamorgan opening batsman, marooned on 99 since mid-afternoon on Wednesday, hopes that the rain will relent at Liverpool, where two successive lost days have left Lancashire and the host club also counting the cost.

Gate receipts over three days have totalled £3,500, compared with the projected £15,000-£20,000 for the four-day match.

THE TIMES Mees Pierson CORPORATE GOLF CHALLENGE

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20 JUN	MULTICORE SOLDERS LTD	KINROSS	30
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20 JUN	PFIZER	ETCHINGHILL	40
20 JUN	TAGSA LTD	SANDFORD SPRINGS	48
20 JUN	THE SUGAR ASSOCIATION OF LONDON	HATFIELD LONDON COUNTRY CLUB	50
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23 JUN	ERNST & YOUNG	BLACKWELL	48
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24 JUN	HENRY DIAPER & CO LTD	SOUTHPORT & AINSDALE	30
24 JUN	HITACHI DATA SYSTEMS	WINDERMERE	65
24 JUN	IBH WOODLAND HOSPITAL	BURGHLEY PARK	24
24 JUN	JOHN GOOD & SONS GROUP	BROUGH	36
24 JUN	LEICA UK LIMITED	MENTMORE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	40
24 JUN	ODGERS INTERNATIONAL	RAC COUNTRY CLUB	30
24 JUN	SAGE FINANCIAL SERVICES LTD	KINGSWOOD	20
24 JUN	SCHOFIELD & COMPANY LTD	HATFIELD LONDON COUNTRY CLUB	65
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25 JUN	LYON PILCHER	BRAMSHAW	36

Date	Company name	Venue	Players
25 JUN	PALAGAN LIMITED	MENTMORE GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	40
25 JUN	SEARSCARD	WELCOME HOTEL	16
26 JUN	ALLIED DUNBAR (WEST MIDLANDS)	WALMLEY	60
26 JUN	AON INSURANCE MANAGERS (IOM) LTD	CASTLETOWN	72
26 JUN	BERG ELECTRONICS	MILFORD	72
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26 JUN	SAFETYNET PLC	MURRAYSHALL	32
26 JUN	SEOS DISPLAYS LIMITED	LEWES	40
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26 JUN	THE GLOBAL GROUP PLC	THE OXFORDSHIRE	54
26 JUN	UNUM LIMITED	REIGATE HILL	35
26 JUN	WOODEN SPOON SOCIETY - KENT REGION	KNOLE PARK	60
27 JUN	ANGEL ROOFING LTD	DUKES DENE	48
27 JUN	FIRMENICH UK LTD	STOCKLEY PARK	16
27 JUN	GOSS GROUP LTD	SANDFORD SPRINGS	60
27 JUN	HADLEIGH PLC	WOODBRIDGE	40
27 JUN	J J ASSOCIATES	GATTON MANOR HOTEL	52
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Commitment and desire personified in prop destined to follow in famous footsteps

Martin Johnson, the Lions captain, relaxes on Blouberg Strand yesterday before the serious business of the tour begins today. Photograph: David Rogers/Allsport

Scots' latest Lion eager to be let loose

David Hands examines the credentials of Tom Smith, a man destined to be at the forefront of action today

There is a tartan thread woven through the history of British Isles forward play in that, at regular intervals, Scotland produces an outstanding loose-head prop. Hugh McLeod established the trend when the Lions visited Australasia in 1959 and Ian McLauchlan picked up the torch in 1971 and 1974. David Sole carved his own niche in Australia in 1989 and today the burden descends upon Tom Smith.

Against South Africa at Newlands this afternoon, Smith will put his three caps-worth of experience up against Adrian Garvey, who propped Zimbabwe's struggling scrum before moving south to play for Natal and qualify for South Africa. At 18st 4lb and 6ft 2in, there is a lot of Garvey, physically and in experience, and the impact of the South Africa front row will be something that Smith has never felt.

Yet there is a quiet sense of commitment and desire about Smith, whose increase in stature comes at the expense of Graham Rowntree and, to a degree, the vastly-experienced Jason Leonard. Quiet is the operative word — on this tour, Smith is likely to be found with his nose in a book, well away from the pranksters who, even in this professional era, will be found in any rugby team.

Smith, 25, might well have played rugby in London. He was born and raised in Hammersmith, was introduced to rugby through the London Welsh mini section and attended Emanuel School before his family moved to Scotland and he played at Rannoch School. Indeed, he played as a No 8 at school, which, together with an early enjoyment of basketball, accounts for the pleasure he takes as a ball-carrier as well as ball-winner.

If ever there was a well-motivated Lion, it is Smith. Selection for the international series is one thing, but Smith seeks success, regardless of the ambitions of others. He has been in this position before, of course, unconsidered as a contender for high honours yet causing selectors to think again. Scotland plucked him from, comparatively-speaking, nowhere to tour New Zealand a year ago.

Few critics fancied his prospects when the Lions were chosen, given Scotland's mediocre showing in the five nations' championship, but Smith has proved them wrong. Like McLauchlan, he is no more than 5ft 9in (though at 17st 4lb he is about three stones heavier), but he and Paul Wallace, his colleague today, have found this an advantage against South African provincial props, who tend to exceed six feet and may be two stones heavier.

They find themselves able to scrummage under their opponents and thrust upwards, so long as the scrum is set straight. Experience has taught them that South African scrums sometimes attack at an angle so as to wheel and take play away down the blind side, or to disrupt the Lions' half-back link. In terms of sheer bulk, Smith learnt much from his Heineken Cup experiences last season, playing for Caledonia Reds against — among others — the big Brive forwards.

Smith: very much his own man

"Every game here has been like Test rugby," Smith said. "There are no glory runs, charging at the stand-off half, every game is hard graft, but we are looking to play a style which is unstructured yet in which we know what we are doing. I've enjoyed it. It's very tiring, physically and mentally, but that's a matter for each player to deal with as an individual. I found I played better when there was a lot at stake."

Like many men who do not court publicity, what Smith says is short but to the point. In New Zealand, he learnt the value of managing his time, in preparing for games and in recovery; where few would spot the occasional poor performance for Watsonians, his club, every game on tour — for Scotland then and the Lions now — had to be top-notch, otherwise Smith was exposed.

It seemed a natural step to accept a Scottish Rugby Union (SRU) contract last winter. Though Smith has an honours degree in commerce and spent a period working in the Scottish Office legal department, rugby offered him a career just at the time when he was breaking through at the highest representative level.

"It has not occurred to any of us that the SRU would contract us all," Smith said. "Everyone was very positive about it. I certainly was. I had not found that being a rugby player was any great help when it came to the job market, but in the end the game got me out of a bit of a hole."

Where some players considered a job within English rugby, Smith is happy with his contract, which takes him to the 1999 World Cup and avoids the playing demands of first-division clubs in England.

"I have developed ambitions in the game — first to play for Scotland, but also to win," Smith said. "I always hoped the chance to tour with the Lions would come and, being here as a relatively inexperienced player, I have found myself mixing with guys who have achieved an enormous amount; but people like Jason Leonard have gone out of their way to knock down any barriers and create a team atmosphere. I'm learning far more about my position from people like him — secrets are shared with the intention of winning the series."

Smith shows a certain irritation at shallow comparisons made between him and Sole, which convinces the listener that Smith is very much his own man. "Front-row play is one of those things you learn over the years, not all of it is to do with strength," Smith said with a grim intensity. That bodes well for the Lions today.

Winning way will stretch South Africa

Rob Andrew, in Cape Town, sees mobility as vital to success for the Lions today

The first international, here today provides the Lions with a tremendous chance to make a statement for northern hemisphere rugby. At stake, potentially, is a place in history. If this Lions party can win the game at Newlands and go on to take the series, it would be very, very special, not only for themselves but also for the game in the northern hemisphere.

There are a lot of factors that affect this match, the weather being one of them. If it is a horrible Cape Town day, it will severely dent the Lions' chances. They certainly do not want it to be raining and the forecast for this afternoon is not very good. I think that they want good weather, almost altitude conditions, because of the side selected.

Ian McGeechan, the coach, has picked a squad and a style of play which is, in a way, non-British. He has looked at the way that he believes South Africa can be beaten at home and he probably made his mind up 12 months ago, when he was in South Africa watching the All Blacks take on the Springboks, playing some of the most powerful, dynamic rugby that we have ever seen. McGeechan must have gone home wondering what sort of players he was going to return with, which is why, I think, there has never been any doubt that he was going to play Gregor Townsend at stand-off half.

> 'It is a throwback to J. P. R. doing great things'

The only concern is whether the Lions are good enough in the front five to hold the ship together. The New Zealand front five was experienced and wily. They did not go out to bulldoze South Africa or outscrummage them, but they could hold their own and then they played off the back of that, moving South Africa around.

The Lions want to do exactly the same, but there is a question mark over whether they will have enough of a platform. Without that, it does not matter who you have in the backs. Townsend will be under enormous pressure.

The scrummage is now such an effective weapon in attack and defence. If South Africa can do on their ball what they wish with the scrum, then the Lions are going to be in trouble. Equally, if the Lions are not allowed to do what they want to do, then that reduces their attacking options. If, however, the Lions can hold their own and not get too disrupted, it will be a cracking game.

Over here, we have seen refereeing similar to that we get at home — breakdown, whistle — so you do not get the continuity. The looser that Colin Hawke (in charge this afternoon) is and the more he allows situations to develop, the better it will be for the Lions. This particular crop are playing un-British rugby, stuff that the South Africans have been surprised by. It is almost a throwback to the 1970s, with Gareth Edwards, Gerald Davies and J. P. R Williams doing great things.

The Lions have played really well on this trip — won seven out of eight while trying to develop the style that they are imposing on the game — but the fact remains that they have not faced any Springboks yet. The sides that they have beaten have not been near to full-strength or Super 12-strength.

So much rests on today. If the Springboks win, they will grow in confidence; if the Lions win, the South Africans will be under enormous pressure. Domestically, there is already the question mark about Carel du Plessis as a coach. If South Africa lose, the whole country will be on the back foot. They treat the Lions as something very special here. They lost to the All Blacks last year and, if the possibility looms of losing at home to the Lions, its impact would be measured on the Richter scale.

What the Lions have got to try to do is recreate the pace, mobility and space with which they have played the game so far. Given space, the Lions have players who can do something a little bit special. If they can get momentum in the game and go from phase to phase and break up the game, it will enable them to get almost into a sevens-type game. South Africa will not that, because they are big, strong and direct — and perhaps a bit one-dimensional.

CYCLING

Morel beats path to breathtaking victory

By Peter Bryan

CHRISTOPHE MOREL, of France, showed little respect for the ascent and descent of the 2,036ft Snaefell yesterday, winning the 113-mile Manx International over three laps of the TT circuit at Douglas.

His rivals acknowledged that he was the strongest on the five-mile climb out of Ramsey and that was confirmed by the Frenchman's ability to break clear and then make a breathtaking descent to the finish on the last lap.

Morel, who earlier in the week finished in eighth position to Stuart Dangerfield, of Great Britain, in the one-lap mountain time-trial, crossed the line 18sec clear of Julian Winn, of Wales, to win in 4hr 35min 25sec, the second-fastest time in the 56-year history of the race. Brian Smith, the former British professional champion, was third. Robert Millar, now the Great Britain national road coach, remains the record-holder after his victory two years ago in 4hr 32min 53sec.

Morel had been at the head of affairs for most of the race once the initial breakaway group of 17 was established at Kirk Michael after 14 miles. At the end of the first lap (37.75 miles), their lead was 1min 20sec, but, after an attack by Smith on the second lap, the group was reduced to nine, which included Morel and Cedric Jacquot, his compatriot. Jacquot then went clear on the final mountain climb, testing the opposition, it transpired, on behalf of Morel, who was strong enough to catch and overtake his teammate.

Once in the clear, Morel's confidence was further bolstered by the knowledge that Jacquot would tactically attempt to reduce the effect of the chasing group. "We had spoken during the last lap and planned the decisive attack on the mountain," Morel said.

Cricket at Disney World? Howzat for a goofy idea

SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

AS ENGLISH cricket once again marches to war with its Mickey Mouse ears firmly in place, so I learn that plans are afoot to take the game to Disney World in Florida. The International Cricket Conference (ICC) has long been filled with desire to "globalize" the sport: this is a marketing term and means going to America (*vide* the last World Cup). In this case, it means going the whole hog: Disney World.

Where else? David Richards, the ICC chief executive, reports "expressions of interest" from the Disney corporation. Ali Bacher, in charge of ICC development, said: "We must develop and globalize the game. I have no doubt that Disney will deliver their part of the deal." This involves a ground ready for some form of international tournament in September 1998. No doubt Disney will be as faithful to the original as they were to Kipling when they made *Jungle Book*.

Caught short

Faithful readers of this space will recall the tale of Melbourne Town Cricket Club in Derbyshire, in whose home dressing-room hangs a notice requesting players not to hit sixes between long-off and deep extra cover, because the local council gave permission for the building of six houses around the boundary without stipulating that a protective fence should be built.

A kind Melbourne resident and cricket lover sent me a picture and caption from *Village Voice* of Melbourne and District, something that sums up the joys of village cricket for all time. The caption reads, in time-honoured fashion: "Melbourne CC 1st XI" and proceeds to list the names. The picture, however, shows a total of nine players. Don't scoff: at Tewin, we used to *pray* that we'd get as many as nine players. Though sometimes, of course, we got 13.

Strike me down

The thing about writing this column is that there are certain stories you know will come along sooner or later. It is just a matter of waiting. So here it is: the baseball bench-clearing brawl — in a women's game. Colorado Silver Bullets were playing a team from somewhere called Americus. The Bullets lost a four-run lead and were heading for defeat in the last inning when Kim Bratz, batting for the Bullets, was hit by the ball.

This, in baseball (which, unlike cricket, is essentially a game for wimps) is considered the ultimate no-no. To make this ten times worse, the pitcher laughed. So Bratz, enraged and knowing that a woman has to do what a woman has to do, charged the mound to attack the pitcher and the players on both sides all joined in. "Some of our players got in some pretty good licks," the Bullets general manager, Phil Niekro (yes, him, baseball fans, the great knuckleball pitcher), said. "I hate to see it, but it's part of baseball." The gender, as Lady Bracknell never quite said, is immaterial.

Write stuff

José Luis Chilavert, the Paraguayan goalkeeper and leading goalscorer for Velez Sarsfield, of Argentina — he is a free-kick specialist — has long been a hero of this column. Now I learn that he is considering a move to American football as a kicker. However, in discussing this matter, Chilavert turned his attention elsewhere. "What really matters to me in life," he said, "is reading. You say, I will give a silk cravat. I say no — just give me a book! Reading is the most important thing in the world." His trinity of great writers is Jorgé Luis Borges, Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Augusto Roa Bastos. The last of these, I learn, is Paraguayan and 80. "He is my hero. An opponent of dictatorship, courageous in exile and I am delighted now that he has returned to us." Please note: in football, only goalkeepers talk like this.

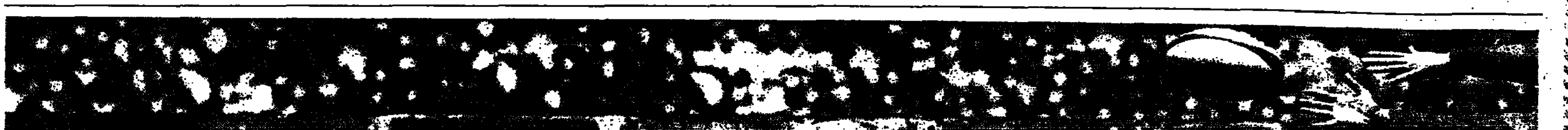
Worth an appeal

As an appeal is launched in Australia for the Establishment of The Bradman Exhibition, something to be called the 6996 Appeal, for every Test-match run Bradman scored, let us recall that it is 70 years ago this year that Bradman made his first-class debut, for New South Wales against South Australia on December 16, scoring, of course, a century.

He is 89 in August, still receives 250 letters a week, replying to many of them by hand. A survey in Australia named Bradman as the country's top sporting personality of all time, with 25 per cent of the votes; in second place was someone called Greg Norman, wth eight per cent. The exhibition will house the considerable collection of Bradman memorabilia, cuttings, scrapbooks and tapes and will involve all kinds of modern technologies. Anybody who wishes to contribute can send money to The Bradman Collection Appeal, State Library of South Australia Foundation, North Terrace, Adelaide, SA 5000.

One not out

The Nicolas Feuillatte Shane Warne Fizzometer currently stands at one.



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ATHLETICS

Christie hopes to splash out on European farewell

From David Powell, Athletics Correspondent, in Munich

SHOULD Linford Christie feel himself drowning if his team-mates have occasion to give him a ducking tomorrow, never fear. One of the raw recruits in the Great Britain squad for the European Cup here this weekend is a former lifeguard. Who better, then, than Chris Rawlinson to go in at the deep end today?

It is custom in the European Cup for the winning team captain to be thrown into the steeplechase water basin and, given the strength of the Britain men's squad here, *Christie cannot be over-confident of departing the arena dry.* However, much may depend on Rawlinson, who has the unenviable task of being first on to the track in his first appearance overseas in a Great Britain vest.

Rawlinson is Britain's representative in the 400 metres hurdles and, if the mens' team is to beat Germany, the winning nation for the past three years and now on home soil, he must make sure that he scores, at the very least, the three points expected of him by finishing sixth. If he can pick up one or two more, and defeat Olaf Hense, the German representative, so much the better.

As you might expect of one who once tackled Rhino and Wolf on television in *Gladiators*, Rawlinson is not scared easily. Asked yesterday if he was feeling the pressure, he said: "I have not really thought about it. In some respects, it is better being first on than last. If I make a mistake, it might be forgotten by Sunday afternoon."

Rawlinson, 25, is a sports science student at Loughborough University, but, until recently, was a pool lifeguard. Six years as a lifeguard without saving any lives is . . . well . . . boring.

"It was more like a childminder's job," he said, "so I decided to go back to university."

Yesterday, Rawlinson did the captain's job, taking questions from the media at the team press conference that Christie refused to attend. Christie's absence was all the more irresponsible for it being his last appearance for Britain — and a chance to help to whip up interest back home in a prospective momentus triumph.

Malcolm Arnold, Britain's head coach, was reluctant to speak of victory, to say how this was a chance to correct the impression left by some sections of the media after the Olympic Games in Atlanta last year that British athletes were failures. Instead of fighting talk, of saying, perhaps, that British towels were out on German beaches — and that the territory would not be surrendered — Arnold kept it strangely low key.

"We need the rub of the green," was as close as Arnold came to a battle cry. Nor should we expect to see him dancing on the infield if the men end a sequence of five successive team second places in this competition, having last won the competition at Gateshead in 1989. Arnold is not given, like Frank Dick, his predecessor, to excitable speculation or celebration.

However, before running away with the idea that British celebration is probable, Germany's more even strength across the events sends them into the two-day eight-nation competition as favourites. Until Wolfgang Kreissig, their high jumper, withdrew injured yesterday, and was replaced by an athlete with the best of 2.26 metres, their announced team was as unchanged as Britain's.

There is a difference, though, in the methodology of the two national federations. The German federation is guaranteeing selection for the world championships in Athens to any athlete placing in the top two here and has put up a performance-related prize-fund. The British federation has offered no Athens guarantees and no money, not even for appearance. In fact, Arnold said: "They go home out of pocket."

He added that the way the team had "held together" since it was selected a fortnight ago was "a turn around of previous years".

Not all British athletes in the past had been willing to compete in the European Cup, but now every first-choice athlete is here on the men's side. Two women — Judy Oakes and Phylis Smith — have withdrawn in protest at their National Lottery sports fund grants, which, in Arnold's view, is "a bit petty and small-minded".

The Britain women's team includes Sally Gunnell, Denise Lewis, Kelly Holmes, Paula Radcliffe and Ashia Hansen, but is likely to finish in mid-table.

The men will need victories from Christie, Roger Black, Jonathan Edwards and Steve Backley, but each team member is as important as the next. For example, if those expected to finish sixth can finish fourth, that would be as valuable as a Christie 100 metres and 200 metres double.

For the throwers and horizontal jumpers, this European Cup marks a new, controversial turn; only four attempts, instead of the traditional six, are permitted. Arnold is vehemently opposed to the move, designed to concentrate interest in events that are thought to take too long.

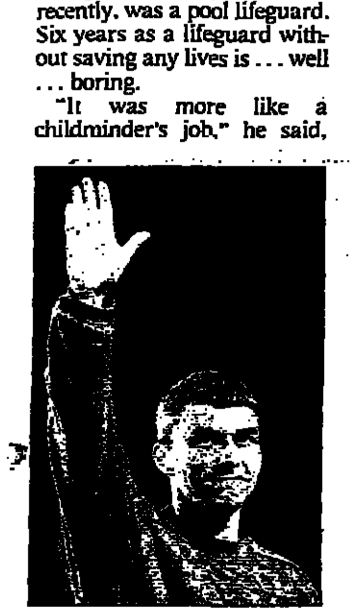
DETAILS

GREAT BRITAIN TEAM

MEN: 100m: L Christie. 200m: Christie. 400m: R Black. 800m: M Sesay. 1,500m: J Mayock. 3,000m: A Whiteman. 5,000m: A Pearson. 3,000m steeplechase: R Hough. 110m hurdles: C Jackson. 400m hurdles: C Rawlinson. High jump: S Smith. Pole vault: N Buckfield. Long jump: S Phillips. Triple jump: J Edwards. Shot: M Proctor. Discus: R Weir. Hammer: P Head. Javelin: S Backley. 4 x 100m relay (from): I Mackie, D Campbell, J Livingston, D Walker, J Gardener, M Devonish. 4 x 400m relay (from): Black, I Thomas, M Richardson, J Baulch, M Hylton, R Knowles.

WOMEN: 100m: S Jacobs. 200m: Jacobs. 400m: D Fraser. 800m: H Parry. 1,500m: K Holmes. 3,000m: P Radcliffe. 5,000m: L Elliott. 100m hurdles: A Thorp. 400m hurdles: S Gunnell. High jump: D Marti. Pole vault: J Whitlock. Long jump: D Lewis. Triple jump: A Hansen. Shot: M Augee. Discus: J McKernan. Hammer: L Sprules. Javelin: S Gibson. 4 x 100m relay (from): Jacobs, M Richardson, B Kinch, P Thomas, K Merry. 4 x 400m relay (from): M Thomas, A Curbishley, Fraser, Gunnell, M Pierre, S Llewellyn.

TELEVISION: Today: BBC1: Grandstand (live, from 3.10pm). Eurosport: Highlights (7.0). Tomorrow: BBC1: Live (1.10-3.05pm). BBC2: Sunday Grandstand (live, from 3.05pm). Eurosport: Highlights (7.0).



Edwards: new format

Christie: bowing out

RUI VIEIRA

Tim Henman celebrates his indoor victory over Grant Stafford in Nottingham yesterday. Report, page 56

RUGBY LEAGUE: MEDIA CRITICS ADD INSULT TO INJURY FOR BRITONS

Wigan primed to rise to the cause

By Christopher Irvine

AS WELL as being heavily beaten in the world club championship group stages, British clubs have had a stick taken to them by the Australian media. Without a dramatic reversal of fortunes this weekend, the Pom bashing, which continued unabated yesterday after Oldham's hefty reverse at Adelaide, is unlikely to relent.

The brief lull in the squirming for the home sides in Australia, generated by Wigan's opening win at Sydney-based Canterbury, already seems an age ago. A 34-0 thrashing for Wigan by Brisbane Broncos last Monday is followed tomorrow by a visit to Canberra Raiders, worthy championship favourites, who encountered minimum resistance from Halifax Blue Sox and London Broncos in registering 136 points.

Wigan are no easy-beats, but Canberra bristle with so much speed and energy that it is hard to see their momentum being halted. It has been a far from ideal week for Wigan, with Nigel Wright injured, Neil Cowie sent home early for missing a training session and the decision by Australian officials to give Gordon Tallis, the Brisbane forward, only a written warning for using Terry O'Connor's head as a punchbag.

In place of Wright, Henry Paul switches to stand-off half and Paul Koloi, the new Tongan recruit, makes his full debut at full back for Wigan. "Paul has been working with Henry and, as well as being an exceptional handler of the ball, he is quite comfortable under the high ball," Ray Unsworth, Wigan's assistant coach, said.

Unsworth said that the Cowie incident had not affected preparation for the final leg of Wigan's away programme. "It's obviously a thing you don't like to happen on camp. We've had a meeting about it and the guys seem somewhat uplifted and our focus is totally on Sunday," he said.

Halifax have suffered more than any European side and will almost certainly be relieved, after the probable trauma of meeting Brisbane tomorrow, to be on their way home. Michael Jackson, one of the few Blue Sox players to do anything for their reputations, said: "It's been tense in training, but it is a question, above all, of achieving some respect."

Andy Platt, the captain of Salford Reds, who meet North Queensland at Townsville today, said: "The commitment of the English clubs seems to waver in the final 15 minutes in each half. That's where we're all getting so heavily punished; the pace of the game is so quick here."

In European home legs, Paris Saint-Germain tonight entertain Perth Reds, who lost their second match at Sheffield Eagles. St Helens, routed at home by Auckland and Cronulla, need an urgent improvement against Penrith tomorrow evening as pointsdifference looks like being their best chance of a quarter-final place.

The Rugby Football League (RFL) dismissed St Helens' protest about a timekeeping error in the 48-8 defeat last Monday by Cronulla, in which the first half was mistakenly extended by nearly four minutes and Cronulla scored a converted try. Clubs have been reminded that they alone are responsible for the timing of matches.

Adelaide maintain dominance

Adelaide Rams............42
Oldham Bears............14

By Our Sports Staff

ADELAIDE Rams completed their home fixtures in the Super League Visa world club championship with this comfortable defeat of Oldham Bears yesterday morning. Despite an early stumble, the Rams never looked seriously likely to become the third Australasian side to succumb to European opposition.

Oldham enjoyed one of their best moments two minutes after the kick-off. Wayne Simonds, the Adelaide wing, failed to take Martin Crompton's high kick and Paul Topping was on hand to dive on the ball for the try.

Yet that early advantage did not last. Three first-half tries, all converted, gave Adelaide an 18-6 lead at half-time. Oldham gave themselves a chance of coming back into the match early in the second half when Crompton held up a well-timed pass for Joe Faimalo to score.

The Bears' chances of restoring parity were dealt a mortal blow, however, when a bad error by Afi Leuila, the wing, let Maybon in for a crucial try; Maloney's score seven minutes from the end was but a consolation.

The game was marred by a brawl in the 64th minute, caused by a late tackle by Leuila on Simonds. Both players were sent for a stint in the sin bin.

SCORERS: Adelaide Rams: Tries: Galea, Hick, Maybon, Simonds, Stone, Williamson, Wrigley. Goals: Williamson (6), Wrigley. Oldham Bears: Tries: Faimalo, Maloney, Topping. Goal: Maloney.
ADELAIDE RAMS: R Maybon; W Simonds, C Quinn, S Kiri, M Maguire; L Williamson, D Schifilliti; A Cann, S Stone, M Corvo, D Boughton, B Galea, C Blair. Substitutes: A Hick, B Mamando, K Wrigley, K Walters.
OLDHAM BEARS: P Atcheson; P Leuila, D Abram, R Myler, D Jones; F Maloney, M Crompton; I Gildart, J Clarke, G Lord, P Topping, J Faimalo, M Munro. Substitutes: J Temu, H Hill, L Goodwin, D Stephenson.
Referee: G Annesley

TENNIS

Tranquillity dashed by efforts to beat rain

By Julian Muscat
Tennis Correspondent

EFFORTS to complete the Direct Line Insurance women's international tournament at Eastbourne have developed into a scramble entirely out of keeping with the tranquil atmosphere at the seaside venue. A near wash-out yesterday, after a similar predicament on Thursday, left the organisers intent on completing the quarter-finals, semi-finals and the final in one session today.

Three of the quarter-finals are well advanced, but the match involving Arantxa Sánchez Vicario and Irina Spirlea has yet to start. Sánchez Vicario, seeded No 4, faces the prospect of playing three singles matches. Play is scheduled to commence at 10.30am, when the singles event will take precedence over doubles.

Even more may be required of Natasha Zvereva, Jana Novotna and Nathalie Tauziat, who are also separately engaged in the doubles event. Tauziat, whose quarter-final match with Zvereva was rained off with the score at 1-2 in the deciding set, was involved in a similar marathon in the DFS Classic at Edgbaston last week. She won the event after playing both the semi-final and final on Sunday. Tauziat returned to the venue on Monday, only to be defeated in the doubles final.

With Wimbledon starting on Monday, players at Eastbourne are anxious to complete the tournament today. If necessary, however, there will be play tomorrow, as there was in 1990.

Theoretically, Zvereva, Novotna or Tauziat could play in more than five matches. "I haven't yet decided if I will play the doubles," Tauziat said yesterday. "Everyone playing here will not be playing at Wimbledon until Tuesday. It is no problem, but, if it rains again, the players will not be particularly happy to play more than one match on Sunday."

The rain arrived at a singularly inappropriate time for Novotna yesterday. Playing Ai Sugiyama, of Japan, Novotna, the No 2 seed, broke her opponent at 5-5 in the second set and was poised to serve out the match. Novotna, who took the opening set 6-2, was forced off the court with the score at 6-5 and 15-15. The pair were on court for 74 minutes; no play was possible after 12.25pm.

There was no play at all in the other quarter-final, involving Monica Seles and Brenda Schultz-McCarthy. Seles, the No 1 seed and defending champion, trails her opponent by one set. The pair are locked together at 2-2 in the second set.

ROWING

Britain's best in imperious form

From Mike Rosewell in Paris

STEVE REDGRAVE and Matthew Pinsent stretched their unbeaten run of competitive races to 65 in Paris yesterday — 62 as a pair and three in their four with Tim Foster and James Cracknell.

In a difficult crosswind, the crew had problems off the start with the alignment clamps. "It was a minute into the race before we really got going," Redgrave said. After that, the four cruised to first place over the France B crew to book a place in the final tomorrow, the appetite being whetted by the performance of the new France A crew, who, also relaxed, won the other heat in an identical time to the Britons.

Guin Batten, the Great Britain sculler, found herself in the same heat yesterday as Maria Brandin, of Sweden, who was fourth to Batten's fifth in the Olympic Games final in Atlanta last year and is Batten's main rival for a medal at Henley in two weeks' time. Brandin and Batten held the first two places — with three qualifying — all the way and a "cat and mouse" situation developed.

"I made it difficult for her by having a few bursts and then letting it off," Batten said. Brandin finished 3sec ahead, but Batten spent the race at a slightly lower rate.

Greg Searle, a heavyweight, and Peter Haining, a lightweight, two other leading British scullers, each failed to qualify directly for their semi-finals yesterday morning. Haining was leading his heat to 1,500 metres before his asthma, which he thought was behind him, returned and he finished second. Searle took advantage of his second chance yesterday evening by winning his repechage, but Haining, in spite of the use of an inhaler, stopped racing at 1,200 metres.

The reshuffling of the women's squad paid off yesterday. Sue Walker and Lisa Ayre, racing as the Great Britain B crew in the coxless pairs, moved past Bulgaria and Germany, from third to first, in the last 500 metres of their heat to book a place in the final, although Dot Blackie and Cath Bishop, the A team, just missed out by finishing in second place behind Romania. Their chances of progressing in the repechage today, however, look good.

Miriam Batten and Gillian Lindsay, a Scot, making their first international appearance in a double scull, led from the first stroke to record a comfortable victory, encouragingly 12sec faster than Switzerland, the other direct qualifiers for the final.

Batten said later: "I go well with Scots partners," making a reference to her 1991 world championship medal with Fiona Freckleton.

Rob Thatcher and Ben Hunt-Davis, the promising new coxless pair, had a hiccup in their first heat, admitting afterwards to going too hard too early. They looked set to win at 1,500 metres until Malizewski and Roche, the France third pair, put pressure on at 750 metres. Thatcher and Hunt-Davis's steering became erratic, resulting in second place.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: San Diego 4 Colorado 8; New York Mets 7 Pittsburgh 6; San Francisco 5 Los Angeles 2.
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Texas 1 Seattle 2; Anaheim 4 Oakland 3

BOWLS

WORTHING: *English Riviera open tournament:* Men: Singles: Fifth round: J Evans bt S Evans 21-13; C Steer bt R Wright 21-20; R Darson bt J Turner 21-17; S Widward bt I Spreadborough 21-18; P Hackett bt J Gaylon 21-7; A O'Neill Jr bt J Wickham 21-18; R Johnson bt E Collins 21-12; D Bale bt T Mitchell 21-15. Quarter-finals: Evans bt Steer 21-15; Darson bt Widward 21-9; Hackett bt O'Neill 21-19; Johnson bt Bale 21-11. Semi-finals: Evans bt Darson 21-9; Johnson bt Hackett 21-15. Final: Evans bt Johnson 21-15. Women: Singles: Third round: E Morgan bt Cheryl Northall 21-20; M Davidson bt S Hancock 21-16; R Chedgzoy bt L Hackett 21-19; Christine Northall bt M Cox 21-14; B Carre bt J Collins 21-13; A Weiß bt J Lane 21-11; A Hallam bt I Davies 21-17; A Harris bt S Lee 21-18

CRICKET

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Final day of three: Taunton: Durham 363-9 dec; Somerset 43-1. No play, match drawn. Swansea: Glamorgan 190 and 28-2; Gloucestershire 300-3 dec. No play, match drawn. Canterbury: Derbyshire 201 and 70-0; Kent 258. Match drawn. Horsham: Warwickshire 230 and 50-2; Sussex 55-1 dec. Match drawn. Middlesbrough: Yorkshire 235 and 228-5 dec (A McGrath 102 not out, M J Wood 93), Worcestershire 177-5 dec and 176-1 (C G Mason 100, C J Schofield 66 not out). Match drawn. Middleton: Northamptonshire 345-6 dec (R R Montgomerie 89, A L Penberthy 86, K J Innes 71 not out, A J Swann 51) and 67-0; Lancashire 197-9 dec (J J Haynes 66 not out). Match drawn. Final day of four: Coggeshall: Middlesex 249 and 237 (S P Moffatt 117); Essex 148 and 157 (D G Wilson 52; R P Lane 4-42). Middlesex win by 181 runs.

CYCLING

TOUR OF SWITZERLAND: Third stage (Basle to La Chaux-de-Fonds, 202km): 1, C Agnolutto (Fr) 4hr 30min 23sec; 2, M van Heeswijk (Holl) at 2min 34sec; 3, V Fois (It) same time; 4, M Vergnani (It) 6:52; 5, R Aldag (Ger) 11:32; 6, G Bouvard (Fr); 7, M Bettin (It); 8, L Aus (Est); 9, F Baldato (It); 10, A Vierhouten (Holl) all same time. Leading overall positions: 1, Agnolutto 9hr 33min 7sec; 2, Van Heeswijk 2min 37sec; 3, Fois 2.55; 4, Vergnani 9:03; 5, O Camenzind (Switz) 11:23; 6, L van Bon (Holl) same time; 7, R Petito (It) 11.28; 8, D Nelissen (Bel) 11.30; 9, U Bölts (Ger) 11.37; 10, J Werner (Ger) 11:42.
TOUR OF CATALONIA: First stage: First section (Vila Seca to La Pineda, 71.9km): 1, J Svorada (Slovenia) 1hr 57min 23sec; 2, F Colonna (It); 3, F Moncassin (Fr); 4, E Cassani (It); 5, J Hunt (GB); 6, M Strazzer (It); 7, S Outschakov (Ukr); 8, A Edo (Sp); 9, M Bellini (It); 10, I Flores (Sp) all same time. Second section (Puerto Aventura to La Pineda, 7.8km time-trial): 1, C Boardman (GB) 8min 42sec; 2, A L Casero (Sp) at 12sec; 3, A Garmendia (Sp) same time; 4, F Escartin (Spa) at 23; 5, S O'Grady (Aus) 32; 6, A de las Cuevas (Fr) 33; 7, A Leanizbarrutia (Sp); 8, A Gonzalez (Sp); 9, A Marino (Sp) all same time; 10, B Voskamp (Holl) 38. Leading overall positions: 1, Boardman 2hr 8min 05sec; 2, Casero at 12sec; 3, Garmendia (Sp) same time. 4, Escartin 23; 5, O'Grady 32; 6, De las Cuevas 33
ISLE OF MAN: International week: Open 10-mile time trials: 1, M Postle (Cwmcarn Paragon) 21min 24sec; 2, M Bottrill (North Wirral Velo) 21:51; 3, K Murray (Army TTT) 22:00; 4, P Smith (Border City Wh) 22:11; 5, A Thompson (VS Aztek) 22:20; 6, B Buss (RAF CC) 22:23. Team: RAF CC 1hr 8min 42sec. Veterans: G Longland (Radford Accountants) 21min 53sec. Juniors: S Jones (Harlow CC) 22:35. Women: A Plant (Swaledale CC) 25:35. Manx International road race (113.25 miles): 1, C Morel (Fr) 4hr 35min 25sec; 2, J Winn (Wales) at 18sec; 3, B Smith (Scot); 4, C Jacquot (Fr); 5, P Manning (Adidas-SciCon) all same time; 6, S Hempsall (GB) at 30sec. Viking Trophy (75.5 miles): 1, C Power (Ire) 3hr 12min 06sec; 2, S Hough (Coalville Wh) at 29sec; 3, J Stollery (Wrekinsport CC) at 1:29. BCF women's national road-race championship (37.75 miles): 1, M Lawrence (Team Ambrosia) 1hr 46min 12sec; 2, I Rowntree (Black Country Wh) at 17sec; 3, A Hunter (Team Lusso) at 18sec. Mannin Veg race (37.75 miles): 1, E Hogan (Ireland Juniors) 1hr 36min 28sec; 2, M Scanlon (Ireland Juniors) at 15sec; 3, D Finnegan (Ireland Juniors) same time. Veterans' race (37.75 miles): 1, A Varley (Manx Viking Wh) 1hr 38min 54sec; 2, E Murphy (Manx RC) same time; 3, M Robinson (T-Rex) at 33sec.

FOOTBALL

WORLD CUP: Asian qualifying zone: Group nine: Iraq 6 Pakistan 1 (in Baghdad).
COPA AMERICA: Group C: Brazil 2 Colombia 0; Mexico 1 Costa Rica 1 (both in Santa Cruz, Bolivia).
WORLD YOUTH CHAMPIONSHIP: Group D: Japan 6 Costa Rica 2; Spain 2 Paraguay 1 (both in Kuantan, Malaysia). Group E: Argentina 2 Canada 1; Australia 1 Hungary 0 (both in Kangar, Malaysia). Group F: England 5 United Arab Emirates 0; Ivory Coast 1 Mexico 1 (both in Johor Bahru, Malaysia).

GOLF

STUTTGART: Volvo German Open: Leaders after two rounds (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 132: I Garrido (Sp) 65, 67. 134: E Romero (Arg) 67, 67. 135: M James 68, 67; V Phillips 65, 70; R Karlsson (Swe) 68, 67. 137: A Sherborne 69, 68; J Payne 66, 71, B May (US) 67, 70; R Green (Aus) 71, 66; R Claydon 68, 69. 138: P Haugsrud (Nor) 70, 68; B Lane 68, 70; B Davis 68, 70; S Torrance 70, 68; S Cage 66, 72. 139: R Muntz (Holl) 65, 74; M Mouland 72, 67; S Leaney (Aus) 68, 71; S Allan (Aus) 68, 71; B Langer (Ger) 70, 69; J Skold (Swe) 68, 71. 140: A Cabrera (Arg) 69, 71; M Weir (Can) 65, 75; I Woosnam 71, 69; M Roe 69, 71; D Cooper 72, 68; M Anglert (Swe) 70, 70; T Gogele (Ger) 69, 71; H Thul (Ger) 70, 70. 141: C Suneson (Sp) 69, 72; S Grappasonni (It) 70, 71; D Lee 70, 71; J Remesy (Fr) 68, 73; S Field 73, 68; A Hansen (Den) 70, 71; P Sjoland (Swe) 73, 68; M A Jiménez (Sp) 70, 71; P Price 71, 70; D Cole 69, 72; A Forsbrand (Swe) 68, 73; D Hospital (Sp) 70, 71
HELSINGOR, Denmark: Danish Open: Leading first-round scores (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 66: M Foster. 67: J Hodgson; R Saller (Austria); T Levet (Fr), A Lebouc (Fr). 68: S Brown; S McAllister; M Watson. 69: K Storegaard (Den); G Owen; A Kankkonen (Fin); T Edlund (Swe); J Petts (Den); M Reale (It); G Chalmers (Aus); M Santi (It); T Nielsen (Nor); E Andersson (Swe); A Calcan (It). Other British scores: 70: D A Russell; M Hazelden; S Gallacher; M Plummer; D R Jones, D Lynn, R Winchester, A Clapp; L White. 71: M Archer, M Litton; G Sherry.
HARRISON, New York: Buick Classic: Leading first-round scores (United States *unless stated*): *64: E Els (SA). 66: B Faxon.* 67: P Azinger, J Maggert, V Singh (Fiji), J Furyk. 69: B Fabel, J Carter, R Gilder, S Dunlap, C Rose, P Jordan, F Funk, E Tryba, Lee Rinker, R Alarcon (Mex). 70: C Parry (Aus), R Freeman, M Reid, B Crenshaw, F Nobilo (NZ), J Sluman, L Janzen, B Geiberger, H Twitty, W Wood, R Tway, S Appleby (Aus), C Byrum, C Rymer, S Skinner, B Hughes (Aus).
EVIAN, France: Evian Masters: Leaders after three rounds (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 204: A Nicholas 68, 68, 68. 205: H Kobayashi (Japan) 69, 67, 69. 208: J Morley 67, 67, 74. 209: A Alcott (US) 67, 70, 72. 211: S Waugh (Aus) 70, 69, 72. 212: E Knuth (Sp) 73, 71, 68; K Marshall 72, 71, 69. H Alfredsson (Swe) 72, 70, 70; C Blaylock (US) 74, 67, 71. 213: P Johnson 70, 76, 67; M-L de Lorenzi (Fr) 73, 69, 71. 214: L Davies 74, 70, 70; C Sorenstam (Swe) 74, 69, 71; L Hackney 71, 70, 73. 215: L Lambert (Aus) 76, 70, 69. P Sterner (Swe) 71, 72, 72; M Koch (Ger) 73, 70, 72; C Hj Koch (Swe) 71, 71, 73. 216: L Brooky (NZ) 71, 75, 70. 217: V Skinner (US) 72, 68, 77
PITTSFORD, New York: LPGA Rochester International: Leading first-round scores (United States unless stated): 66: M McGann. 67: N Scranton. 68: L West, N Ramsbottom, M Estill, N Bowen. 69: T Tombs, S Steinhauer, P Sheehan, C Schreyer, D Pepper, G Graham (Can), D Killeen. 70: J Stephenson (Aus), N Harvey (Can), A Finney, S Farwig, M Dobek, L Baugh, J Wyatt (Can), D Ammaccapane, J McGill, A Fruhwirth. European scores: 71: A M Palli (Fr), C Nilsmark (Swe). 72: L Neumann (Swe), E Dahllof (Swe), S Croce (It). 73: K Davies (GB), S Strudwick (GB), C Matthew (GB). 76: S Maynor (GB).
LINDRICK GOLF CLUB, Nottinghamshire: British Universities Championships: Final: Surrey bt St Andrews 6-3. Foursomes (Surrey names first): S Singer and M Derry bt M Cryer and B Pile 3 and 2; A Cockayne and R Emery bt G Forster and O Lindsay 4 and 3; R Fenwick and M Cox bt I Powell and C White 7 and 5. Singles (Surrey names first): Fenwick bt Cryer 2 and 1; Singer bt Pile 1 up; Cox lost to Forster 6 and 4; Cockayne bt Powell 2 and 1, Emery lost to White 2 and 1; Derry lost to Lindsay 2 and 1

ROWING

PARIS: World Cup regatta: World Cup events: Men: Sculls: Qualifiers for semi-finals: Heat one: Slovenia (Great Britain third). Heat two: Norway. Heat three: Egypt. Repechage one: Great Britain (G Searle), United States, Romania. Repechage two: France I, Belgium, France II. Repechage three: Latvia, Austria, Croatia. Coxless pairs: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Lithuania (Great Britain sixth). Heat two: France (Great Britain second). Double sculls: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Norway. Heat two: Germany (Great Britain fifth). Coxless fours: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Great Britain (J Cracknell, S Redgrave, T Foster, M Pinsent). Heat two: France. Quad sculls: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Belarus. Heat two: Switzerland (Great Britain second). Lightweight double *sculls: all twelve crews, including Great* Britain, to semi-finals. Coxless fours: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Denmark (Great Britain third). Heat two: France (Great Britain third). Women: Sculls: Qualifiers for semi-finals: Heat one: Belarus, France, Latvia. Heat two: Germany, Bulgaria, Denmark (Great Britain fifth). Heat three: Sweden, Great Britain (G Batten), France II. Repechage one: Norway, Belgium, Greece (Great Britain fifth). Coxless pairs: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Great Britain II (S Walker/L Ayre). Heat two: Romania (Great Britain second). Double sculls: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Switzerland. Heat two: Great Britain *(M Batten/G Lindsay). Lightweight women:* Double sculls: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: Romania. Heat two: Germany. Other events: Lightweight men's singles: Qualifiers for semi-finals: Heat one: Denmark. Heat two: Ireland II. Heat three: Ireland I (Great Britain third). Heat four: France (Great Britain second). Repechage one: Austria I, Austria II. Repechage two: Germany, Great Britain (Middleton). Repechage three: Switzerland, Sweden. Repechage four: Lithuania, France. Lightweight men's coxless pairs: Qualifiers for final: Heat one: France II (Great Britain fourth). Heat two: France I

RUGBY LEAGUE

Super League Visa world club championship

Pool B

Adelaide 42 Oldham 14

Adelaide Rams: Tries: Galea, Hick, Maybon, Simonds, Stone, Williamson, Wrigley. Goals: Williamson 6, Wrigley. Oldham Bears: Tries: Faimalo, Maloney, Topping. Goal: Maloney. Att: 15,000

ALLIANCE CHAMPIONSHIP: Castleford 16 Featherstone 30
AUSTRALIAN LEAGUE (ARL): Western Suburbs 16 South Sydney 20.

SPEEDWAY

ELITE LEAGUE: Ipswich 53 Swindon 37. Postponed: Peterborough v Poole
PREMIER LEAGUE: Postponed: Oxford v Stoke.
AMATEUR LEAGUE: Postponed: Newport and Exeter v Reading and Swindon; Oxford v Buxton; Peterborough v Lathallan.

TENNIS

ROEHAMPTON: Wimbledon qualifying tournament: Men: Third round (winners qualify for main draw): P Baur (Ger) bt N Pereira (Ven) 6-2, 6-1; H Davids (Holl) bt E Erlich (Isr) 6-3, 6-4; C van Garsse (Bel) bt P Tramacchi (Aus) 6-4, 6-3; D Rikl (Cz) bt P Bouteyre (Fr) 6-4, 6-3; W McGuire (US) bt S Bryan (US) 6-4, 6-2; T Larkham (Aus) bt B Shelton (US) 7-6, 6-3; L Herrera (Mex) bt S Huet (Fr) 6-1, 6-3; R Gilbert (Fr) bt M Hill (Aus) 7-5, 6-3; J Salzenstein (US) bt B Ellwood (Aus) 6-4, 6-2; M Bhupathi (India) bt J Winnink (Holl) 6-4, 6-3; A Clement (Fr) bt M Draper (Aus) 6-4, 7-5.
NOTTINGHAM: Nottingham Open: Quarter-finals: T Henman (GB) bt G Stafford (SA) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6; K Kucera (Slovakia) bt S Draper (Aus) 4-6, 6-2, 7-5; G Rusedski (GB) bt J Stoltenberg (Aus) 6-4, 7-6; S Stolle (Aus) bt A O'Brien (US) 7-6, 4-6, 7-6.
EASTBOURNE: Direct Line Insurance international women's tournament: Quarter-finals: B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) leads M Seles (US) 7-5, 2-2; N Zvereva (Bela) leads N Tauziat (Fr) 6-4, 5-7, 2-1; J Novotna (Cz) leads A Sugiyama (Japan) 6-2, 6-5
ROSMALEN, Holland: Open tournament: Men: Second round: R Krajicek (Holl) bt H *Dreekmann (Ger) 6-0, 6-3;* S Schalken (Holl) bt L Paes (India) 6-2, 6-2; M Damm (Cz) bt C Woodruff (US) 6-1, 6-7, 6-1; G Raoux (Fr) bt K Alami (Mor) 6-4, 2-6, 7-6. Quarter-finals: M Chang (US) bt F Clavet (Sp) 6-7, 7-6, 6-1; J Bjorkman (Swe) bt F Wibier (Holl) 6-2, 6-4; Raoux bt Schalken 7-6, 6-4. Krajicek bt Damm 7-6, 7-6. Women: Quarter-finals: A Carlsson (Swe) wo M Pierce (Fr); R Dragomir (Rom) bt D van Roost (Bel) 6-1, 2-6, 6-4; A Huber (Ger) bt S Appelmans (Bel) 6-2, 4-6, 7-6, M Oremans (Holl) bt K Habsudova (Slovakia) 6-2, 7-5

Exclusive Sunday Times reader offer

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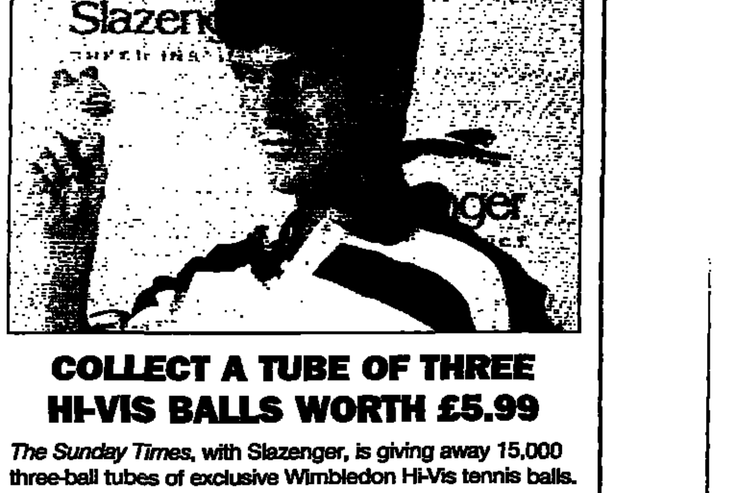
The Sunday Times, with Slazenger, is giving away 15,000 three-ball tubes of exclusive Wimbledon Hi-Vis tennis balls. The tubes are worth £5.99 each.

Slazenger has been Wimbledon's sole supplier of tennis *balls since 1902 and the Hi-Vis ball has been hand tested* to the LTA's exacting standards for pressure, appearance and bounce. It contains high levels of fluorescent dye to give players such as Tim Henman, above, that split second longer to react and allows audiences a clearer view of the action.

If you collected the token which appeared with a voucher in the Style section of *The Sunday Times* last week, simply collect the second token from Style tomorrow and three differently numbered tokens from *The Times*, one of which must be from the Wimbledon supplement appearing on Monday. Another voucher will appear in the Wimbledon supplement. Attach all five tokens to the voucher, and present it at a Sports Division store before July 5. You will receive a free tube of three Hi-Vis balls, subject to stock availability at the time of your visit. To find your local Sports Division store call 0800 146 542.



GOLF 48

Nicholas stands tall after taking lead in Evian Masters

SPORT

ATHLETICS 55

Christie hoping to make a splash on farewell appearance

Lions venture into unknown territory

FROM DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT
IN CAPE TOWN

THE moment of truth arrives for the British Isles touring party at Newlands here this evening, the selectors having gambled in choosing players on form rather than experience for the first international against South Africa for 17 years.

The Lions are uncertain whether the likes of Jeremy Davidson, Tom Smith and Richard Hill can make the advance in class that will be required. "They're going into a tunnel," Jim Telfer, the Lions' assistant coach, said, "and they don't know if they're going to come out at the other end." Such players appear today on merit, but merit earned against teams significantly weaker than the experienced XV in green-and-gold which will line up against them. James Small, in his 38th international, joins Frik du Preez and Jannie Ellis as the most-capped South Africans of all.

If the weather frowns upon the game (a cold front is expected in Cape Town during the afternoon), then the examination of the Lions tight five forwards will be even greater because that is where the Springboks will begin their voyage of exploration. The difference between the weights of the respective packs is no more than three stone but it is the constant application of that weight, on a soft pitch, which the Lions must counter.

If their front five holds and gives the back row and scrum half a stable platform, then anything, even the incalculable boost of victory, is possible for a side sizzling with confidence. If they do not, and the Lions are reduced to scrabbling for possession in a country where one side can dominate the ball for prolonged periods, then South Africa will take a lead in the three-match series.

Dawson: pivotal role

Ironically, the International Rugby Football Board has held a conference in Cape Town this week where the central theme has been to ensure a fair contest for the ball. The board members have concluded that the southern-hemisphere emphasis on continuity has gone too far and is damaging such fundamental aspects of the game as the scrum, lineout and ruck.

"Because a game offers a challenge to the audience, it does not make it wrong," Lee Smith, the board's development officer, said memorably. The fast food of the Super 12 tournament, so in thrall to television interests, has not satisfied everyone and has led — as the Lions now know from experience — to perversions of some of the game's laws. Television has also led to the ridiculous kick-off time of 5.15pm because that is the only slot when terrestrial air-time is available and which even the South Africa team management would rather avoid. The game will begin, therefore, in fading light and conclude in darkness, which creates its own problems for defending full backs and wings.

The 1974 Lions began their international series with a 12-3 win on a Newlands morass. Since then, no Lions party has won the opening international of a series and only one — those of 1989 in Australia — have recovered from the setback to claim the final honours. If they are to stake a claim in as powerful a rugby nation as South Africa, it must be today.

Pivotal to the outcome will be the display at scrum half of Matthew Dawson. Opportunity beckons the young Northampton player as never before after being overlooked by England last season; the departure of Rob Howley with a dislocated shoulder last week brings Dawson face to face with Joost van der Westhuizen, arguably the best scrum half in the world, and his ability to survive in this arena is scarcely less important than the fate of the front five.

"I have immense respect for Rob, we have got on well on this tour and I have learnt a lot from him," Dawson said. "If I can get close to Rob's quality, I will be very happy." So will his forwards, because if the the pack is struggling they will need every inch of territory the backs can wring out of the game and the accuracy of kicking from half-back — not one of Gregor Townsend's strengths — will be critical.

South Africa can also be expected to test Neil Jenkins's positional sense and bravery at full back. The latter is not in doubt, the former is for a player far happier at stand-off half; given half a chance, Jenkins will run ball back at opponents, using his wings as foils rather than hustling his own way through. It was his footballing vision which allowed John Bentley to score his memorable try against Gauteng and this, finally, will be the key to the Lions winning.

Assuming some degree of parity at the set-pieces, the Lions are committed to an expansive game which they must now sustain under pressure more intense than any they have known, as a team, before. "The ability to keep your game in place when you are knackered will be the key," Telfer, whose players have ended every tour match strongly, said. "If we can contain South Africa, keep close to them for the first 60 minutes, it will be a very interesting last 20."

Maybe it is significant that before the match, the Webb Ellis Trophy, won by South Africa at the 1995 World Cup, will be returned to Rugby World Cup Ltd to begin its journey to Wales and the 1999 tournament. Its departure could inspire the Springboks, whose stock, in public eyes, was lowered by the series defeat against New Zealand last year; on the other hand, the cup now passes into Welsh possession and today the Lions, Jenkins, Ieuan Evans, Scott Gibbs and friends, need all the omens they can find.

Scot let loose, page 54
Rob Andrew, page 54

TODAY'S TEAMS AT NEWLANDS

SOUTH AFRICA		BRITISH ISLES
A J Joubert (Natal)	15	N R Jenkins (Pontypridd/Wales)
J T Small (Western Province)	14	I C Evans (Llanelli/Wales)
J C Mulder (Gauteng)	13	I S Gibbs (Swansea/Wales)
E Lubbe (Griqualand West)	12	J C Guscott (Bath/England)
A H Snyman (Northern Transvaal)	11	A V Tait (Newcastle/Scotland)
H W Honiball (Natal)	10	G P J Townsend (North'ton/Scotland)
J H van der Westhuizen (N Transvaal)	9	M J S Dawson (Northampton/England)
J P du Randt (Free State)	1	T J Smith (Watsonians/Scotland)
A E Drotske (Free State)	2	K G M Wood (Harlequins/Ireland)
A C Garvey (Natal)	3	P S Wallace (Saracens/Ireland)
A G Venter (Free State)	6	L B N Dallaglio (Wasps/England)
M G Andrews (Natal)	4	M O Johnson (Leicester/England)*
J J Strydom (Gauteng)	5	J W Davidson (London Irish/Ireland)
R J Kruger (Northern Transvaal)	7	R A Hill (Saracens/England)
G H Teichmann (Natal)*	8	T A K Rodber (North'ton/Army/England)

Referee: C J Hawke (New Zealand) Sky Sports 1: from 3.30pm * captain

REPLACEMENTS: 16 R G Bennett (Border), 17 B Wessels (Griqualand West), 18 W Swanepoel (Free State), 19 K Otto (Northern Transvaal), 20 J Dalton (Gauteng), 21 D F Theron (Griqualand West).

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J Bentley (Newcastle/England), 17 M J Catt (Bath/England), 18 A Healey (Leicester/England), 19 B H Williams (Richmond/Wales), 20 J Leonard (Harlequins/England), 21 R I Wainwright (Watsonians/Army/Scot).

England toil before rain returns

McGrath puts Australia in strong position

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

LORD'S (second day of five, Australia won the toss): England have scored 38 for three wickets against Australia

FIRST it had been the weather that doused the spirit of the Lord's crowds, then a headmasterish lecture on behaviour from the secretary of MCC. By the time the second Cornhill Test got under way 24 hours late and England lost their first three wickets for 13, the rampant euphoria of Edgbaston might have been a lifetime rather than a fortnight ago.

Only 90 minutes of play was possible before the promised rain arrived, but it was enough to engulf the ground in a bewildered silence. The thousands who had come to celebrate a new dawn for the England team retreated to their damp and deflated picnics wondering if it had been just another delusion.

This, of course, would be an even harsher prejudgment than that made on Australia after their rout at Edgbaston. Conditions yesterday were more hostile to batsmen than on the first morning in Birmingham and, in Glenn McGrath, Australia had the ideal bowler to exploit them.

England, on reflection, may be relieved to have lost only their top three. Certainly, they were grateful to Nasser Hussain and Graham Thorpe for surviving. At Edgbaston, they had come together at 50 for three and added 288; yesterday's reunion brought them an unbroken 25, heroism in miniature.

With further rain forecast over the coming three days, something outlandish will be required to create a positive outcome and MCC were also obliged to contemplate negatives as their raincheck scheme was activated for the second successive day. Refunds of half the ticket value apply for yesterday and the potential outgoings are now close to £1 million.

John Woodcock 52
Michael Henderson 53
Swing to Durham 53

MCC can exert no control over the climate, but plenty over their spectators. The heckling of Australians at Edgbaston provoked a pre-play address from the secretary, Roger Knight, advising of the standards expected.

It was a good toss for Mark Taylor to have won and Michael Atherton would surely have preferred to be in the field. Neither man, however, could have expected quite the assistance the quicker bowlers received as the ball seamed, swung and bounced unevenly off an already cracked surface.

Atherton, who had been presented with a silver salver before the toss to recognise his record 42nd Test as captain, was quickly acquainted with the problems as Paul Reiffel, in his very English style, made the ball dart around.

It was, however, McGrath who took the spoils. He was strangely out of sorts at Edgbaston, but he ranks among the half-dozen best new-ball bowlers in the modern game and demonstrated it now with 13 balls that brought him three wickets for two runs.

Early in the seventh over, Mark Butcher recorded a four over the slip cordon off the shoulder of the bat. When McGrath bowled a similarly spiteful ball, he could only fend it, off bat and pad, to short-leg. He walked without awaiting a decision, doubtless wondering if his third innings in Test cricket might be his last.

Atherton has played obstinately in similar circumstances, but this was not to be his day. Adjusting late to a ball that bounced and left him, he could only deflect it low to the right of first slip, where Taylor took a sharp catch.

Alec Stewart fell to a rare misjudgment, offering no stroke to a ball coming back down the hill to hit off stump, and a precarious position could quickly have become calamitous. Thorpe, still on nought, edged McGrath and Ian Healy, plunging forward, scooped up the ball before trotting forward to confess it had been taken on the half-volley.

Soon, Thorpe was taking two successive fours off McGrath, prompting Taylor to turn to Shane Warne, but whether Warne has recovered form as well as McGrath remains to be seen. The rain began as he prepared to bowl his first ball and a resumption never looked feasible.

SCOREBOARD FROM LORD'S

Australia won toss

ENGLAND: First Innings

M A Butcher c Blewett b McGrath (28min, 26 balls, 1 four)	5
*M A Atherton c Taylor b McGrath (38min, 24 balls)	1
†A J Stewart b McGrath (18min, 13 balls)	1
N Hussain not out (53min, 32 balls, 1 four)	10
G P Thorpe not out (44min, 35 balls, 2 fours)	13
Extras (b 4, nb 4)	8
Total (3 wkts, 21 overs, 92min)	38

J P Crawley, M A Ealham, R D B Croft, D Gough, A R Caddick and D E Malcolm to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-11 (Atherton 1), 2-12 (Stewart 1), 3-13 (Hussain 1).

BOWLING: McGrath 10-2-21-3 (3 fours, one spell), Reiffel 8-4-4-0 (nb 2; 5-4-1-0, 1-0-3-0); Kasprowicz 5-1-9-0 (nb 2, 1 four, one spell).

AUSTRALIA: *M A Taylor, M T G Elliott, G S Blewett, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, M G Bevan, †I A Healy, S K Warne, M S Kasprowicz, P R Reiffel, G D McGrath

Umpires: D R Shepherd and S Venkataraghavan (India) Third umpire: D J Constant. Match referee: R S Madugalle (Sri Lanka)

SERIES DETAILS: First Test (Edgbaston) England won by nine wickets. Tests to come: Third (Old Trafford) July 3-7 Fourth (Headingley) July 24-28 Fifth (Trent Bridge) August 7-11 Sixth (The Oval) August 21-25

☐ *Compiled by Bill Frindall*

HUGH ROUTLEDGE

A rueful Atherton sets off for the pavilion after being caught at first slip by Taylor

British hopes happy to come in from the cold

BY NICK SZCZEPANIK

THE dream of an all-British final in the Nottingham Open is still alive, even if the weather is turning the competition into a nightmare for the organisers. The quarter-finals yesterday, including wins for Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski, were decided on indoor courts at the Nottingham Tennis Centre, with spectators excluded while rain teamed down outside.

Rusedski enjoyed a fairly trouble-free 6-3, 7-6 victory over Jason Stoltenberg, of Australia, but Tim Henman, with the overnight score in his match with Grant Stafford, of South Africa, standing at one set all, had to save four match points in a single set shoot-out, coming back from a service break down to win the tie-break 8-6. He faces Karol Kucera, of Slovakia, today.

The battling performance, encouraging as it was, is an imperfect pointer to the British No 1's Wimbledon form, although there were plenty of positive points to be drawn. "It wasn't on grass, but it was another match and I won," Henman said. "To come through my last two matches 7-6 in the third is mentally very satisfying. It shows I'm fighting very hard. I certainly didn't expect to be playing indoors on cement, but it's more matches and that's what I said I needed this week — the more the better."

If the bad weather continues today, the final may be delayed until tomorrow, but Henman will not mind. "It's obviously going to be a tight schedule, but I'd love to be in the final whatever day it's on. It won't affect me."

Rusedski, who needed only two of his three match points in the second set tie-break to clinch a semi-final place against Sandon Stolle, of Australia, today was more equivocal. "I have more than enough tennis under my belt," he said. "If I didn't reach the final, I wouldn't be disappointed because I'd have an extra day or two off before Wimbledon, but if I do it's good for me too — so any which way, it's a positive."

He refused to be drawn on the possibility of the first all-British final of the open era. "We both have difficult matches and can't look ahead yet," he said. There is every chance that those matches will also be indoors, where the absence of spectators made for an unreal atmosphere yesterday.

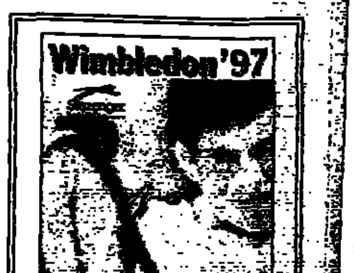
Shots that merited applause drew only muttered approval from court-side reporters cagey about appearing partisan; but pencils were soon being chewed anxiously. Henman had two break points in the fifth game, but could not benefit: Stafford, however, needed only one chance to break Henman's serve in the next as Henman put a forehand wide after serving a double fault.

At match point down, when the crowd would have lifted the home favourite, there was only eerie silence, but Stafford served a double fault and Henman went on to break back. In the tie-break, Henman was 6-3 down, saved two match points on his own service and levelled via the net cord on his opponent's. When Stafford put a backhand wide, Henman's forehand did the rest. Cue eruption from behind a curtained screen as previously silent supporters made their feelings loudly known on hearing the result.

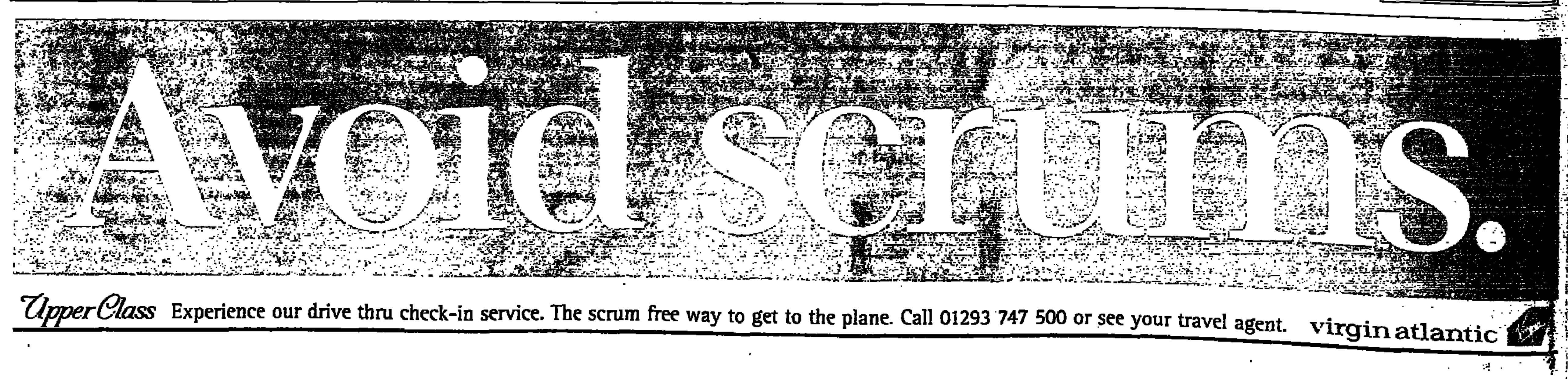
Andre Agassi withdrew from Wimbledon yesterday with a recurrent wrist injury. Agassi, the champion in 1992, has not played a tournament for two months and was unseeded. Seven of the world's top 20 players will not take part this year.

Ladies' scramble, page 55

Wimbledon '97



On Monday: a 16-page supplement with full championships details



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Blue belles out for summer
Shopping · 3

THE TIMES
weekend

SATURDAY JUNE 21 1997

Couples who want a child-free zone
home life · 15

Why do women put up with it? **Rose Wild** explains the bizarre weekend ritual of bats, balls and Branston pickle

PETER NICHOLLS

Ready for the tea interval, three of the Crowcombe Cricket Club stalwarts: left to right, Margaret Kennington, Christine Lewis and Anita Brewer, doyenne of the teas, whose husband Viv is the club's vice-chairman and son Chris the club captain

Tea for 24, please

A couple of weeks ago I went to a cricket match. While England were winning a famous victory over the Australians at Edgbaston, the Old Talbotians were notching up a thrilling draw — I think that's how my husband put it — against a team of vaguely familiar television actors at the lavishly appointed Bank of England sports ground in southwest London. The sun shone quite a lot, there were occasional sharp showers, largely ignored by the players, and a firm wind blew. In almost no time, the Sunday newspapers were turned into something resembling grey meringues.

No matter how many sorties one makes into glorious looking summer days, there are never enough warm sweaters to hand. At least at the Bank of England ground we had the picnic rugs to wrap up in. The charm of it all wasn't obvious, none the less, to the Californian we had brought with us to the game. Her husband, a financial analyst, had manfully stepped in to fill a gap in the ranks and, as a recent arrival in this country, she was keen to take in an important cultural experience. Her bafflement at the proceedings on the pitch was as nothing to the dawning horror that there stretched ahead six or seven hours braced against the wind whipping across the blasted heath. Shortly after the tea interval she said she thought she probably ought to be getting on with her dissertation on 19th-century German psychology, so I drove her home.

I expect the marriage will last. These things, after all, give backbone to relationships. It takes a real bond to survive a man disappearing for the best part of every summer weekend through anything up to 40 years of marital untogetherness. And it takes a woman to make him pay.

The accomplished cricket wife will see these years of absenteeism as an ongoing build-up of credit. Over the average playing span of the amateur cricketers — of whom hundreds of thousands take to the pitch every week — she will have some 400 opportunities of pointing out that his absorbing passion is only a game. He knows this not to be true, but the subliminal message will sneak its way past his defence. Many is the player who scrapes it on to the field with seconds to spare, groaning from the weight of domestic chores.

Of course, his absence is less a cause for grievance than relief. Even the most Nineties of wives will see the proven benefits of getting a chap out of the house. Where once they had to be sent off to build empires to keep them out of mischief, now they can simply stride out to that distant wicket and stay there as long as the rain holds off. Squash and bowls don't take half long enough. Tennis and golf are a mere flurry. Only a slow boat to India can compare with those contemplative hours crouched to attention in the outfield of some well-mown English meadow.

The question of how glad Penelope really was to get Ulysses out of the house is perhaps best answered by Mildred Dent. For 20 years since his retirement, her husband George has devoted his energies to the organisation and wellbeing of Crowcombe Cricket Club. Crowcombe is a village of about 400 people at the foot of the Quantock Hills in west Somerset.

More famous of late as the home of the Quantock Staghounds, the village none the less hosts four cricket teams, plus junior XIs. But cricket, Mrs Dent says, "bores me stiff". With husband umpiring and children enthusiastic, she put in her time on the boundary, but "it's so slow, and they go on and on and then everyone claps and shouts and I say what's happened and they all say, 'Shhhh' ".

Finally the worm turned. "I don't like to talk about it really, because I have this enormous guilt," she says. "But when you have young children you do what they want to do. When you're old you can do what you want." So she bought herself a summer house, where she sits with her radio and sews. Her latest work, a set of tapestry chairs, took some three cricket seasons to complete.

The courage of Mrs Dent's convictions has made her something of a legend in Crowcombe. Cricket is to this village as Blues is to Chicago or duck to Peking. And however fortunes fare in the West Somerset League, the teas are absolutely champion. The mastermind behind the urn is Anita Brewer, whose husband Viv doubles as village sub-postmaster and cricket club vice-chairman, and whose son Chris is club captain.

While Crowcombe teas are famous, they are also the subject of a certain amount of competition among the providers. "Some people do go over the top a bit," Mrs Brewer says rather chillingly. As a once-only volunteer, I found out what this means, to my cost, and, believe me, no crime is greater. I offered to help with the OTs' tea, and was caught red-handed trying to put watercress into the cheese sandwiches.

Margaret Kennington, a pillar of the Crowcombe tea rota, gives the definitive recipe for a cricket tea which will offend no masculine sensibilities. It goes like this:

3 white loaves
2 brown loaves
various fillings: egg and cress, ham, cheese and chutney, tomatoes and salad
small pies and pasties, jam tarts, sausage rolls, cakes, sponges, scones with strawberry jam or strawberries and cream
tea, coffee and squash.

One player, according to Mrs Brewer, simply has to have lemon curd tarts and cheese and pickle sandwiches whenever he plays. "Sometimes I hide the lemon curd in something else so he has to go round looking for it." Occasional liberties with the formula are allowed: "Sometimes we do something special like meringues, or fruit flans or savoury flans," Mrs Kennington says. "And of course they like anything with chocolate."

Once the players have done their best with this bounty, it is generously extended to spectators to polish off, something of which the Bank of England might take note. When the OTs played at their ground, the tea scarcely went round the players. And yet, for the OTs, this fixture is by far their most luxurious. More commonly they are to be found among the Portakabins of Perivale municipal park.

The OTs are not, as they might sound, sporting scions of some minor public school. Instead, they descend from the house team of James Goldsmith's *Now* magazine, which was puzzlingly nicknamed *Talbot* by *Private Eye* during its brief 1970s existence. The years

Continued on page 2

SHOPPING .... 2-3 | GARDENING .... 4-6 | PROPERTY .... 7-10 | COUNTRY LIFE .... 11 | FEATURES .... 13 | PETS .... 14 | HOME LIFE .... 15 | TRAVEL 17-23

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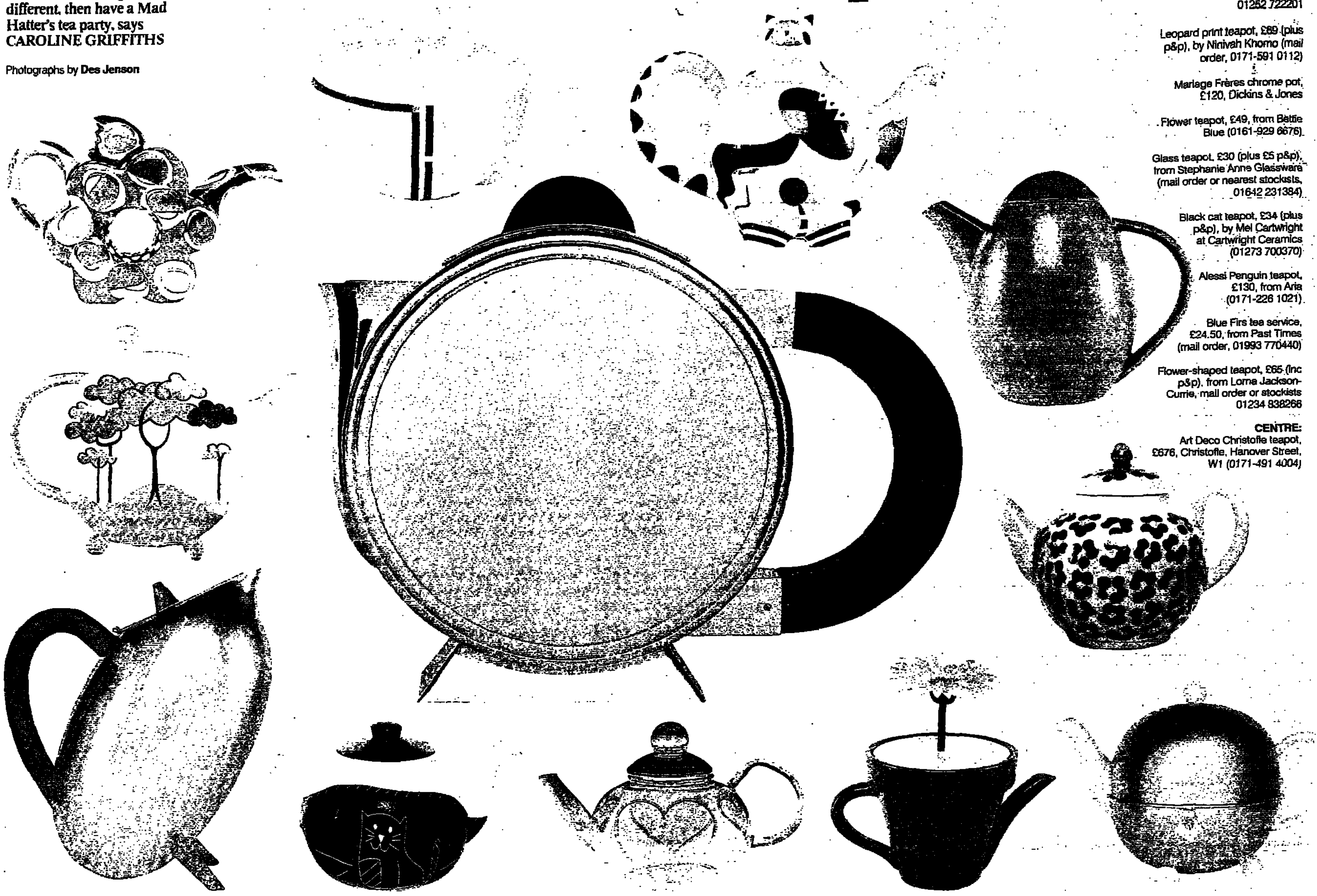
For richer... for pourer

TEAPOTS reveal a lot about their owners, so forget the brown and boring ones and invest in something a little different, then have a Mad Hatter's tea party, says CAROLINE GRIFFITHS

Photographs by **Des Jenson**



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP:
Cupola Nera teapot, £105, Studio Line range by Rosenthal at Liberty, Regent Street, W1 (0171-734 1234)

Cat teapot by Villeroy & Boch, £99.95, from Dickins & Jones (0171-734 7070)

Boda Nova stoneware teapot, £49.95 (plus p&p), stockists on 01252 722201

Leopard print teapot, £69 (plus p&p), by Ninivah Khomo (mail order, 0171-591 0112)

Mariage Frères chrome pot, £120, Dickins & Jones

Flower teapot, £49, from Bettie Blue (0161-929 6676)

Glass teapot, £30 (plus £5 p&p), from Stephanie Anne Glassware (mail order or nearest stockists, 01642 231384)

Black cat teapot, £34 (plus p&p), by Mel Cartwright at Cartwright Ceramics (01273 700370)

Alessi Penguin teapot, £130, from Aria (0171-226 1021)

Blue Firs tea service, £24.50, from Past Times (mail order, 01993 770440)

Flower-shaped teapot, £65 (inc p&p), from Lorne Jackson-Currie, mail order or stockists 01234 838266

CENTRE:
Art Deco Christofle teapot, £676, Christofle, Hanover Street, W1 (0171-491 4004)

'There's this coffin in our boot...'

Continued from page 1

have thinned the numbers and thickened the waists of the original journalistic eleven, and numbers have been augmented by younger and fitter blood from other professions.

Urban teams such as the OTs lead a sad life in comparison with their country counterparts, and long to escape their barren suburban parks, where dogs roam unfettered, for the idylls of Oxfordshire and beyond.

The highlight of the season, and often the only opportunity for spouses to see each other in daylight during the summer months, is the tour. Those two or three days playing on rural pitches with convivial hostelries close at hand is the urban player's ideal of what cricket should be. Many of them also cherish the illusion that it amounts to a consoling summer holiday for the accompanying womenfolk, who would otherwise have to be content with a midweek trip to Paris on the Eurostar, if they were lucky.

Not that womenfolk are usually much in evidence at OT games. The typical crowd of supporters totals one: Sue Greenhill, a photographer, who turns out loyally in support of her partner, the writer Andrew Lycett. Week after week she braves the horrors of suburban traffic, and can be seen swathed in rugs in glamorous solitude on the boundary.

There are trials involved in living with the team's most reliable player. "Andrew insists on keeping the team kit in the back of the car, because he thinks it's the only way you can guarantee getting to play in the next game. So we have to drive round all summer with this thing the size of a coffin in the boot." And, she adds somewhat disloyally, "they have to spend hours in the bath after a match or they can't move the next day."

Age may not wither the enthusiasm of the amateur cricketer, but inevitably, as the skills start to recede, the insecurity grows.

Children quickly work out that a good way to get Daddy to say really interesting rude words is to go and make smart remarks as he plods sadly back to the pavilion after a poor innings. "You'd be amazed at how many bats have been thrown at that cupboard," Mrs Brewer says, pointing to a battered relic outside the Crowcombe dressing room.

A noticeable sign of failing powers is the gradual proliferation of bats in the front hall. They simply don't make them the right weight or the handle the right length any more.

In Crowcombe, artist Marilyn Ewens's hall is overflowing with gear. Her husband, Chris Smith, plays for Crowcombe's Second XI and runs the under-13s, and they have two sons and a daughter, who all play. They play host to five sets of kit. "We used to keep all the stuff in an enormous chest under the stairs but it overflowed ages ago and now it's everywhere. Sometimes, at the end of the season," Marilyn says, "I find bags with all the crumpled whites still in them. It only occurs to them to wonder where they are just before a game, as if they will magically have washed themselves."

Like many of what one might call the senior cricket wives, Marilyn bears no grudge about the game. The joy of watching a match played against the backdrop of one of England's most beautiful landscapes, with buzzards soaring overhead, may possibly pall if you can do it all the time but, as she says, "in a busy weekend, going to the game makes you take time out. If you're at the ground you can't be cooking."

GUY NEWMAN

Cricket fan Marilyn Ewens with one of her team paintings

And there is a bonus. Marilyn's beautiful paintings of the cricket team at work adorn and, in between her exhibitions, sell from the bar of Crowcombe's estimable pub, the Carew Arms.

But not all cricket wives share her equanimity about the game. Kitty Morris, whose husband Rupert, a journalist, is president of the OTs, fears for the future of the team. "The trouble is that the younger players are getting settled down.

"The women want the men to be doing things: they want them to be nesting. Unless the team can get in a younger, laddish, element, I'm afraid it's all danger of collapsing in on itself. Like the Shakers, they may just die out."

Surely not. Some newly wed players may risk the ridicule of team mates by skipping a couple of seasons, but, if my husband is anything to go by, it's just a phase they go through. Trips to Ikea may hold a passing sway, but soon the siren call to the stumps will recapture them, and England can sleep soundly once more.

● *The Old Talbotians' summer tour will this year visit Crowcombe for the first time, where they will play the Sunday XI on August 31.*

INTRODUCTORY OFFER

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هكذا من الاصل

Current supply of electric blue

Heath Brown
is moved by
summertime
blues

"Blue is the world's favourite colour," says colour psychologist Angela Wright and this summer it certainly shows when it comes to fashion. It is everywhere, in every shade from light duckegg to deep indigo — with a fresh, lively, Mediterranean feel.

Wright says: "When people wear blue it encourages them to centre themselves and concentrate on work requiring mental effort." It is considered to be a friendly, reflective colour in its lighter versions, relaxed and confident in mid-tones or more efficient and authoritative when dark.

Within the blue spectrum there is at least one tone for everyone. Mid-tones are good for most skin colours, blondes suit light sky blues and brunettes, dark navy. However the easiest way to wear blue this summer is to mix and match tones and shades.

The combinations are endless — a bold electric blue singlet can liven up a dark trouser suit, periwinkle ruffle tops go well with darker navy skirts and light shirts can be worn with simple cobalt slacks. These mixtures are flexible enough for the office and evening as long as there is a dash of navy.

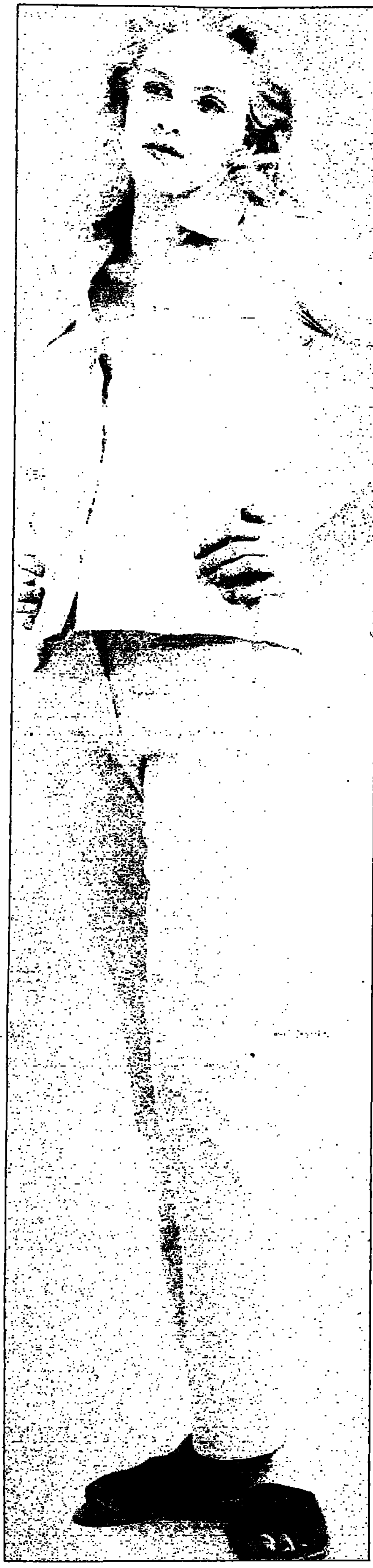
You can highlight your best features with paler shades and disguise imperfections with *darker hues — navy trousers* with a bright blue top will lead the eye away from fuller hips.

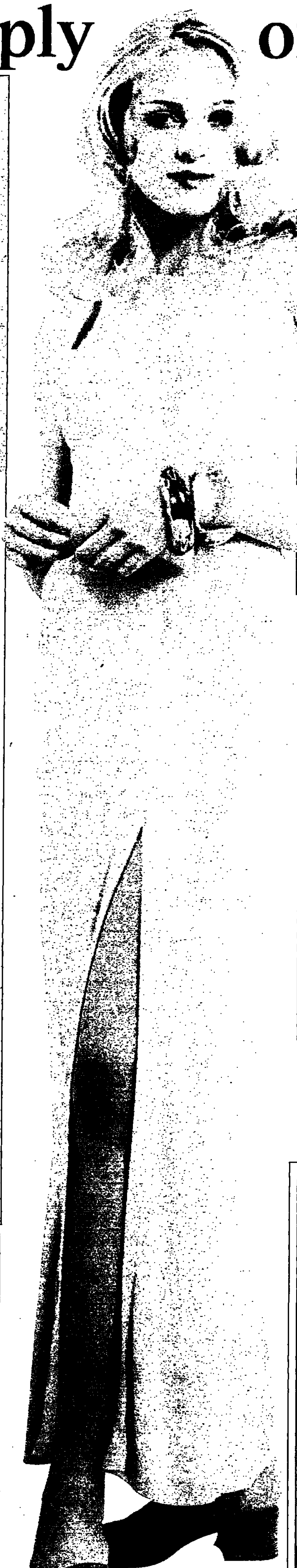
Shoes and bags should contrast with your outfit, never match. For jewellery, simple silver torques and bangles are subtle and chic.

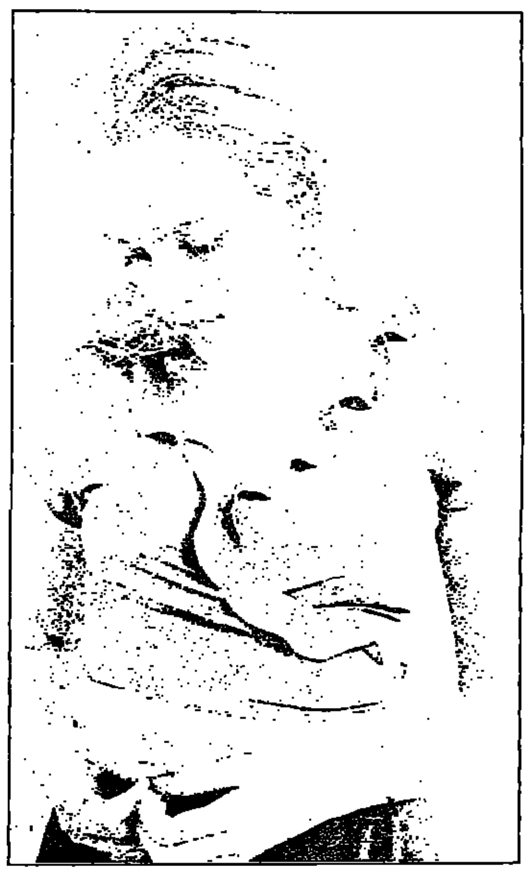
Every contemporary clothes shop is stocking blue fashion this summer, from high street chains such as French Connection, Warehouse and Monsoon to designers such as Anna Molinari's Blumarine label, Istante, Miu Miu and Ben de Lisi.

Blue may be this year's colour but clothes you buy now will take you through many seasons and are a sound investment.

ABOVE: Catwalk casual by Ben de Lisi and
RIGHT: High street version — stretch shirt, £60; stretch trousers, £50, both from, French Connection, branches nationwide (0171-580 2507). Flat mules, £95.50, Russell & Bromley, 23-24 New Bond Street, London W1. (0171-629 6903)







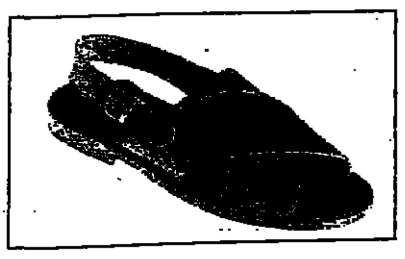
LEFT: Designer version — frilled shirt and wrap skirt by Blumarine and
RIGHT: Chain store chic — frill wrap top, £35, Warehouse, (0171-705 1901). Silk wrap skirt, £80. Monsoon, branches nationwide (0171-313 3000)

TOP: Shiny stretch top, £48; blue flared trousers, £120, both by Caractère, Fenwick, New Bond Street, W1; Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1 (0171-631 4777). Pale blue knit elbow length cardigan, £79 50, Scotch House, 2 Brompton Road, London, SW1 (0171-581 2151)

Main photographs by **Richard Burns.** Catwalk photographs by **Chris Moore.** Hair and make-up by **Sally Kvalheim** for Jo Hansford (0171-495 7774) Styling by **Amandip Uppal**

THREE OF A KIND

Let your toes beathe this summer with a pair of sandals — from simple thongs to high-tech hikers. Here are three of the best. H.B.



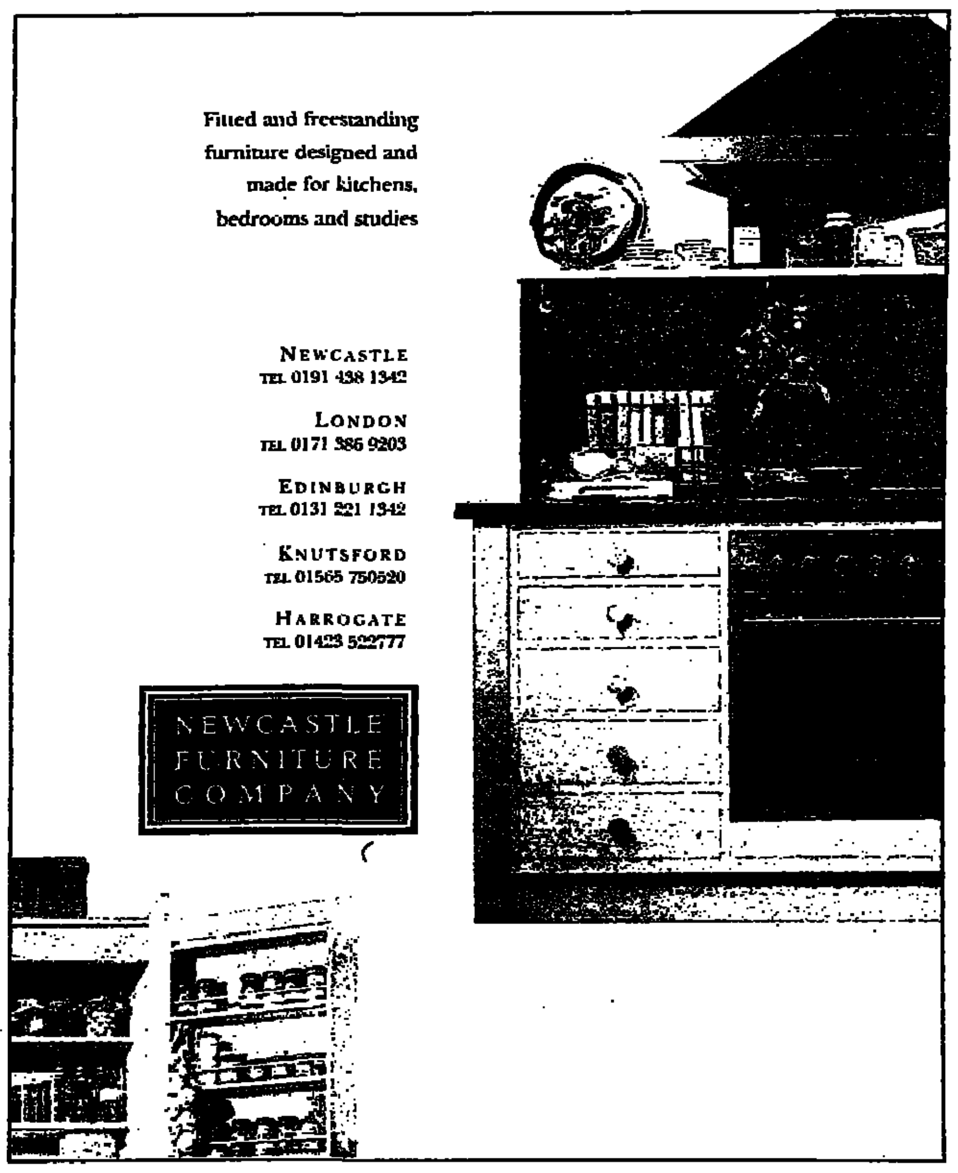
Brown leather cross strap sandals, £64.99, Russell & Bromley, selected branches, (0171-629 6903)

Brown suede Velcro fasten sandals, £69.99, Camel, Shellys, selected branches nationwide (0181-208 4340)

Brown leather thong sandals, £150, Gucci, 33 Old Bond Street, W1; 18 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-629 2716)

LEFT: Catwalk class blue dress from Istante by Gianni Versace

ABOVE: Along similar lines, jersey dress with split, £380 approx, Ritmo di Perla, Emanuel Kenel, 147 Sloane Street, SW1 (0171-730 0121). Clear plastic bangles from £16.95, Fenwick, New Bond Street, W1. Cross front Mules, £59.95, Bertie, 36 South Molton Street, W1 (0171-935 2002).



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GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON

replies to readers' letters

Q I have a young avocado, 1ft high, grown from a pip in a 7in pot. What do I do with it? — Mrs A. Bates, Chesham, Buckinghamshire.

A At this time of year it could be put out on a sheltered terrace. Pot it on gradually as necessary for stability. Normally, it is a large tropical tree, so all you can hope to do is keep it for amusement as a foliage plant. The leaves are large, dramatic and not unlike a big magnolia. Pinch it out regularly to make it bushy, or it will quickly become rangy. In winter, bring it indoors, or into a frost-free greenhouse (or warmer).

Q I have just acquired a 16in, glazed, frost-proof pot and would like to use it to make a statement on the patio. Can you suggest a plant which is both dramatic and completely hardy, and will not need watering every couple of days? — Mrs J.C.N. Bew, Guildford, Surrey.

A If your patio is south-facing, anything hardy in a 16in-pot will need water at least every two to three days in hot weather. There are succulents from hotter climates, such as *Agave americana* and *Aeonium arboreum*, which would last long enough without water in full hot sun, but they are not hardy.

If you just want summer drama, I would settle for some smart bedding — a large white-on-grey standard argyranthemum perhaps, or butterfly pelargoniums. But in hot spells you will need to water daily.

If hardiness and lack of watering are paramount, how about filling the pot with a capping of classy house leek? They are hardy, need little watering and, when the bigger rosettes push up their 9in stems to flower, they are certainly intriguing. I always have a pair of pots planted like that, flanking the steps down to my back garden.

I use a variety with slatey, plum-coloured leaves and, as the plants produce their babes around the parent rosette, they mound up and squeeze themselves over the edge of the pot in a determined, lava-like fashion.

Q My 40-year-old Judas tree, *Cercis siliquastrum*, failed to shed its flower pods over winter, so this year's flowers and leaves are mostly failing to form, though there are a few. A neighbour, with younger trees, has had the same experience. Is this a result of winter drought? Should I pick off all those pods? Will the tree adjust? — G.E. Herbert, Haverhill, Suffolk.

A Could it be that last year's hot summer encouraged the setting of a bumper crop of seed and the tree then did not shed its pods, and was too exhausted to make flower buds for this year? Could it be that the tree died of drought last autumn? Always be suspicious of leaves or fruit that refuse to fall. Either way, old pods cannot stop new leaves or flowers emerging.

The Judas tree has this odd habit of producing its bright pink pea flowers out of the bark of older wood just as the leaves emerge in spring. But if the tree is alive, then leaves and, perhaps, flowers will surely emerge. It may be that the new buds were hit by a late frost just as they were emerging.

I have had countless letters about this sort of problem on all kinds of plants, from wisteria to plane trees. Just give it time, see where it sprouts and then cut back the dead growth. Look at the trunk for major splits: this could mean the whole tree will die back.

● *Readers should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. We regret that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *also regrets that any enclosures cannot be returned.*

The Judas tree

Barbara Segall meets a grower whose cottage garden is aglow with more than 80 fragrant rosa varieties

ASHLEY COOMBES

Natalie Finch at work in her rose garden in the Stour Valley, Essex. She likes to pass on her knowledge, including successes and disasters, to visitors and those who attend her rose days

A lesson in loving old roses

Roses have coloured and perfumed Natalie Finch's garden in the Stour Valley, Essex, for about 25 years. Her cottage is home to more than 80 old roses, and her own rose-tinted love for the queen of flowers has developed into a series of lectures and rose study days.

Her introduction to roses came through a neighbour who grew many of the evocatively named, so-called old roses. "Bourbons, centifolias, albas, damasks, chinas, gallicas, hybrid musks and mosses — they were all so beautiful," Mrs Finch says. "I went from rose to rose marvelling at their beauty."

The future of this rose romance was sealed when the neighbour left a trug full of perfect blooms on Mrs Finch's doorstep one summer's evening. Mrs Finch determined to learn all she could about them and how to grow them.

Today, blending rose legend and folklore with hands-on horticulture, Mrs Finch passes on her knowledge, including her successes and disasters, to visitors and those who attend her annual rose days in June.

The rose days begin in the garden with a cup of coffee and a glimpse of its gems before a lecture with slides indoors. Lunch is served in the garden, followed by a tour, the real heart of the rose day. Mrs Finch describes how to recognise the different groups of roses that she grows, gives advice on pruning and growing conditions and demonstrates how to grow these lovely old roses to best advantage.

The tour ends with suggestions for plants that will combine well with roses, and many of these suggestions can be seen in place in the one-acre garden. A former apple orchard, this is the perfect site for the wide variety of old roses. Part of its charm is in the way Mrs Finch has found the perfect position for each of her roses. The sites suit their habit and scale and the result is a "living" classroom, where you can learn about and enjoy roses at the same time.

Against the field hedge of mature holly bushes, all well over 30ft high, rampant ramblers and climbers hold the high ground. Here is a hybrid of *Rosa glauca* 'Sir Cedric Morris', a rose that was found as a seedling in the garden of the late Sir Cedric Morris, the artist and plantsman, at Hadleigh, Suffolk.

Here, too, are mighty strongholds of *Rosa filipes* 'Kiftsgate' and *Rosa helenae*. These, and *Rosa glauca*, are all extremely vigorous, but if there is a tree, old shed or hedge for them to grow over, the clouds of fragrant flowers in summer and bright hips in autumn are a wonderful reward.

Although roses hold the central focus in the garden, Mrs Finch keeps a succession of colour and interest using many herbaceous plants, shrubs and trees. In particular, she enjoys plants with silver and golden variegation, as well as those with buttery yellow and citrine-green flowers that lift the garden in spring. There are also pools of golden colour from aconites, crocus, hellebores, fritillaries, pulmonarias and anemones.

Away from hedges and tree supports, roses mingle in flower borders with typical herbaceous perennials of the cottage garden, including peony, geranium, viola, anthemis, rosemary and lavender. To follow the roses in late summer, Mrs Finch has planted many clematis, such as *C. viticella alba*, that wind through the roses and other shrubs.

In one area of the garden, Mrs Finch has used the pastel petticoats of *Papaver rhoeas*, originally from Sir Cedric Morris's selections, with wild flowers such as corncocke, *Agrostemma githago*, among roses and stands of *Thalictrum aquilegiifolium* to create an "Impressionistic border".

Her mistakes, as well as her successes, are on display and, with great aplomb, Mrs Finch turns them to a teaching advantage. "Having put a garden together from nothing, I know the hazards and never mind explaining my mistakes," says Mrs Finch, who describes herself as an "adaptor, rather than a planner".

Nothing goes to waste in the garden. When an old cotoneaster died, Mrs Finch left it in place and used it as the starting support for a vigorous climbing rose, 'Seagull'. As it grew, she trained it along the bare branches of the old cotoneaster, aiming to transform it in summer to a flower-decked framework. Eventually, 'Seagull' will be persuaded to take flight into a large, nearby tree to make a spectacular display.

Old apple trees offer their gnarled limbs to numerous plants of a rose named 'Apple Blossom'. Meanwhile, 'New Dawn' tumbles from an old pear tree and, in a cedar, 'Paul's Himalayan Musk' makes a dash for heaven.

Trees that fall, such as those that were victims of the storm of 1987, are also drafted into service and transformed into habitats for roses and other herbaceous perennials.

● *Natalie Finch's garden at "Rosemary", Rectory Hill, East Bergholt, Colchester, Essex CO7 6TH (01206 298241) is open tomorrow, 2-6pm, for the Royal National Rose Society's Rose 2000 Appeal to create the National Rose Garden. Other visits by appointment.*

● *Rose study day: Wednesday, June 25, when Mrs Finch's old roses will be at their best. Cost, £38. Phone for further details.*

● *"Late Summer Afternoons in a Country Garden": September 18, 20, 22, featuring berries and foliage. Cost £18.*

Secrets of growing success

TAKING CUTTINGS

Natalie Finch takes sections 23cm/9in long, thick as a pencil, and sets them in a trench at a spade's depth. Before planting she adds a handful of sand to the base of the trench and dips the cutting into hormone rooting powder. If she has to delay planting, she keeps the cuttings in water.

She removes all the foliage except for the two top leaves. Then she firms the cuttings in gently and waits to see if they take before potting in November.

CARE OF OLD ROSES

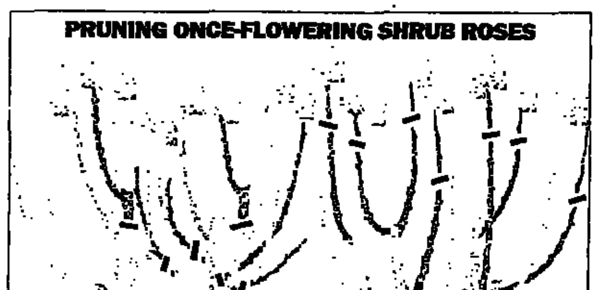
In February, Mrs Finch applies a winter wash to the roses to eradicate blackspot. She also feeds the plants with a rose fertiliser, and mulches their bases with garden compost or spent mushroom compost. She puts the mulch on after rain, to hold moisture. In March and April, she sprays against aphids and blackspot every ten days. From June, she deadheads blooms to keep the plants looking good and to ensure prolonged flowering. She never removes blooms from roses that offer their ornamental hips as the autumn attraction. Roses that repeat flowering, such as 'Graham Thomas', are fed again.

As far as possible, the roses are kept well watered in summer. Mulching after rain or a good soaking helps to retain moisture. This year, the exceptionally early dry conditions are resulting in more mildew on roses than in previous years.

In September/October, Mrs Finch begins to take cuttings, continuing into November. She also prunes the plants in autumn — to give them shape rather than as heavy pruning. She likes complete pruning before Christmas. Mrs Finch lets bush roses first achieve shape and then prunes for a balanced effect, taking out weak, dead and damaged wood. She removes older growth if the plant becomes crowded with stems.

Because she has the space, Mrs Finch leaves rambler roses alone, but removes old wood, especially if the rose is growing into a free-standing tree. Climbers don't grow away as much as ramblers so she takes out only the side-shoots that produced last year's flowers, plus dead wood.

PRUNING ONCE-FLOWERING SHRUB ROSES



Remove weak and diseased stems and crossing branches after flowering

Remove flowered stems and shorten by a third to outward facing bud

BUYING OLD ROSES

Suppliers include: David Austen Roses, Bowling Green Lane, Albrighton, Wolverhampton WV7 3HB (orders 01902 375027, inquiries 01902 373931, fax 01902 372142). Peter Beales Roses, London Road, Attleborough, Norfolk NR17 1AY (01953 454707, fax 01953 456845).

JOINING A SOCIETY

The Royal National Rose Society, Chiswell Green, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL2 3NR (01727 850461, fax 01727 850360).

FURTHER READING

David Austen's English Roses (Conran Octopus, £18.99). *Classic Roses*, by Peter Beales (The Harvill Press, hardback £40, softback £19.99). *Visions of Roses*, by Peter Beales (Little Brown Publishers, £25).

Britain at its Italian best

OPEN THIS WEEKEND

■ **Renishaw Hall, Eckington, Derbyshire (01246 432042)**

At M1 junction 30, take A616 towards Sheffield, or A619 from Chesterfield. Open until Sept 14, Fri-Sun, and Mon, Aug 25, 10.30am-4.30pm, £3, OAPs £2, children £1

Historically important, the hall has the most memorable adaptation of the classical Italian garden to the English countryside. Created by Sir George Sitwell, the garden is a progression from the romantic gabled house, descending in terraces, divided by enormous yew hedges and decorated with outstanding Italian statues and other ornaments. Midway down the garden, a large formal pool is enlivened by an enormous jet fountain and, at the bottom, two huge statues look out over the park dropping away to a lake. There are richly planted borders and plenty of horticultural surprises, as well as delightful corners, such as the island accessible via an iron-railed bridge, or the upper terrace on one side beyond a lime avenue.

■ **Ilmington Manor, near Shipston-on-Stour, Warwickshire (01608 682230)**

Eight miles south of Stratford-upon-Avon. Open tomorrow and July 6, 2-6pm, £2, children free.

The gabled stone manor of Ilmington makes a delightful centrepiece to this well-crafted garden which achieves its fullest dimension during late-June and early July. In one area, a group of surviving fruit trees recall the orchard which originally covered most of the area before the garden was begun between the wars. The old-fashioned roses are prolific and complement herbaceous plants in the main double border, but there is plenty of variety with meticulous arrangement by colour in another area, ebulliently planted lead containers and troughs, and a pool surrounded with flagstones whose joins are planted with herbs. A sense that the garden has continued to evolve to the present day combines with an air of establishment in the best possible way. A good example of the landmarks along the way is the elegant gazebo recently built to celebrate the owner's 80th birthday.

■ **Crathes Castle, Banchory, Aberdeenshire (01330 844525)**

On A93, three miles east of Banchory. Open tomorrow for Scotland's Garden Scheme, and daily all year, 9.30am-sunset, £4.50 (incl castle), OAPs £3, children £3.

This has been one of the country's front-ranking gardens since its creation by Sir James Burnett of Leys and his wife and its completion about 50 years ago. The castle is 16th century and the voluminous yew hedges, integral to the garden's atmosphere, are circa 1700. But it is the arrangement of eight separate garden areas, each with its own character, combining with the enlightened combinations of plants in the different borders, that make Crathes such an intrinsically 20th-century garden. Groupings of shrubs in contrast to herbaceous borders, such as Lady Burnett's renowned white border, progressively build up the impact for visitors.

Crathes Castle gardens, Banchory

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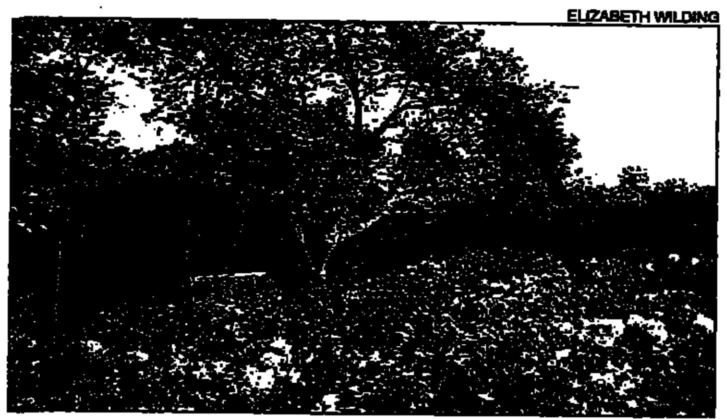
I'm just wild about meadows


ELIZABETH WILDING

Flowering meadows need poor soil to discourage coarse grasses

To achieve the natural look takes a little hard work, says **Stephen Anderton**

Anyone who has made a wild flower meadow will tell you that it's magic and beautiful when it works, but not an easy option. Where great meadows exist in alpine or lowland countryside, they are usually the result of centuries of one consistent system of cultivation. And buying the effects of time is never easy. But if you want to have a go, this is how to go about it.

Decide first if it will be practical in a small garden. Will the children flatten it? Will it have the Wella wave or look like wheat after a thunderstorm? Are you prepared to wait until the flowers have seeded, then to cut hay in summer and to have brown stubble? Long grass, which is more of a threat than a promise, is no use to anyone.

If the answer is still yes, I want a meadow, then decide which kind of meadow. There are basically two. There is one in which bare soil occurs regularly and annual flowers can seed and grow in the bare patches, and another in which consistently dense turf is planted with competitive perennials. You can compare them to pasture and hedgerow. In either case the flowers which grow naturally will depend upon the soil type — whether it is dry, acidic sand or a scraping of thin soil over chalk bed, or clay, or 6ft of fertile loam.

In principle, the poorer the soil the better, for either kind of meadow. If the land is very rich and full of humus and nutrients, coarse grasses will get the upper hand at the expense of flowers. Wild gardening rather than native meadow gardening may be better here, using competitive exotics put out to grass — things like hardy geraniums, bistort, peonies and golden rod.

If you have rich soil and want a star-spangled native meadow of poppies, corn marigolds, scabious and yellow rattle, then it is better to take off the top soil — sell it if needs be — and to plant on to the hungrier subsoil.

There are two ways of establishing meadows. Either spray out all the existing vegetation to make a clean, thistle-free start and sow with a proprietary mixture of flowers and uncompetitive grasses. Or plant plugs (small plantlets) of flowering perennials into suitable existing turf, to self-sow. You can buy plugs or raise them yourself. Scattering bought seed of perennials into established turf is known to be unsuccessful, but installing a number of small plants, to seed themselves, does work gradually. If you are making a meadow of dense turf and naturalised perennials but are starting from bare soil and from seed, it is worth adding in the colourful annuals like poppies and corn cockle to flower in the first year or two. They will disappear as the turf becomes dense, and there may be a green gap of a year or two until the perennials start to flower.

Meadows rich in colourful annuals are generally the result of grazing, where animal hoofs open up bare soil in which the annual seeds can germinate. This effect can be partially achieved by vigorous harrowing or scarification in autumn. But such meadows look pretty bald and thin on grass if you look at them closely, even though they may seem green enough from a distance. They are no replacement for a hard-used lawn and work best when placed at a distance from the house.

BRUCE COLEMAN

Wild flowers planted in a meadow may take some time to establish themselves and self-seed, but they will create a splendid effect

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- ☐ **Yellow rattle** *(Rhinanthus minor)*
- ☐ **Bird's foot trefoil** *(Lotus corniculatus)*
- ☐ **Kidney vetch** *(Anthyllis vulneraria)*
- ☐ **Lady's bedstraw** *(Galium verum)*
- ☐ **Greater knapweed** *(Centaurea scabiosa)*
- ☐ **Field scabious** *(Knautia arvensis)*
- ☐ **Wild carrot** *(Daucus carota)*

Field poppy

EASY ANNUALS

- ☐ **Field poppy** *(Papaver rhoeas)*
- ☐ **Rough poppy** *(Papaver hybridum)*
- ☐ **Corn flower** *(Centaurea cyanus)*
- ☐ **Corn cockle** *(Agrostemma githago)*
- ☐ **Corn marigold** *(Chrysanthemum segetum)*
- ☐ **Forget-me-not** *(Myosotis arvensis)*
- ☐ **Corn chamomile** *(Anthemis arvensis)*
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Planter's healthy film plot

The television 'Lifestyle' guru takes **Jane Owen** on a natural beauty tour

ME AND MY GARDEN : LIZ EARLE

MARTIN BEDDALL

Liz Earle's new pergola is draped with young clematis and wisteria, and, on the fence behind, there are unusual cordons of the pure white-barked gum tree *Eucalyptus parvifolia*

The spiky forms of aloes dotted about the kitchen are testament to health and beauty guru Liz Earle's belief in the potency of plants: she snips bits off the plants to heal burns of any kind. She also swears by plant extracts for relieving puffy eyes and dark circles: an infusion of lavender flowers and mint leaves cooled in the fridge and then applied on cotton wool to the eyes. "It is so nice that some of the old folklore about plant remedies is being proved by science," she says.

These plants and many more can be seen in the kitchen backdrop to her television series, *Liz Earle's Lifestyle*, in which she shares her beauty, gardening and cookery secrets, and talks to celebrities about their lifestyles. But there are tiny imperfections in the midst of the designer lines: dead miniature roses and amaryllis dotted about a central cooking area and a huge conservatory.

"Although millions of people come into our house every week when they watch my programme, I leave it as it is. If there are piles of washing in the background, that's that. And, in the garden, there are sometimes children's toys lying about — I don't clear them away for the cameras."

When Earle and her husband, a City banker, arrived in their house in west London there was nothing in the garden apart from some trees. The first thing she did was to install electric uplighters to show off the weeping willows, apple trees and an oak and give a pleasing glow to the garden at night.

Now, a deep border of yellow and white pansies, pittisporum, deep red peonies, senecio, red azaleas, delphiniums, bergenia and purple pom poms of alliums runs along the side of the garden as you look from the house. The apple trees are large enough not to shade the border too seriously and the boundary fencing behind the bed will soon be swathed in evergreen clematis.

A newly installed pergola along the opposite side of the garden is draped with young clematis and wisteria. The fence behind this has some intriguing young cordons which have been made, unusually, of the pure white-barked gum tree *Eucalyptus parvifolia*. This was Earle's idea. At the end of the pergola she plans to make an evergreen arch.

When the deep border looks dull, she visits the local garden centre to buy in bedding — she rarely has time for much sowing from seed. And, to keep up interest for her viewers, she always has to have a new scheme. Her garden is tended regularly by an outside garden company, which did most of the planting. Earle weeds and ties things back. "Although I am not confident enough to prune," she says.

She has just installed a play area enclosed by railway sleepers and softened with coco mulch, for her children Guy, four, and Lily, six (her real name is Amarilys). "The children now have space to play and I can keep an eye on them from the house." The area includes a Wendy house and space for a paddling pool or sandpit.

Her next scheme is a "secret garden" at the end of the plot. She is also planning a child-safe water feature such as a Japanese deer scarer. "I wanted to make the garden child-friendly, but also colourful and interesting all the year round. A garden gives such a sense of stability. But it takes time and so you have to take a long-term view."

Down the side passage a waist-high planter has been built in brick just outside the kitchen. Here Earle plants parsley, nasturtiums, tarragon and mint just a scissor's reach away from the kitchen where she experiments with herbs and potions for the Naturally Active Skincare products made by her beauty company.

"Some people think that I sit in my kitchen and actually make all the beauty products that I sell. I don't think the health and safety people would be very happy about that," she says.

Earle's yen to garden flourished as a child in her parents' small garden in Portsmouth. A picture of her father, Rear-Admiral David Bawtree, leaning on his spade in the garden, is used in the opening credits of her television programme.

"He is a keen gardener although he never had a large garden. He taught me propagation and weeding and gave me an insight into plants. He grew all our vegetables and I used to help him pick things like purple sprouting broccoli, although not a lot of it got back to the house because I used to eat it raw."

Her father would grow pink fir, apple potatoes, asparagus and many other vegetables which were difficult to buy at the time. "And when I got married he grew most of the flowers for our wedding, including roses and alstroemerias," Earle says.

"I think it is a privilege to be able to give children some idea about gardening. I used to dig about with a little trowel churning up the soil and my father used to say how helpful I was, although I don't suppose I was. Guy has a little red plastic spade that he uses in the garden and the next step may be to let him have a bit of garden of his own."

Earle's first attempt to enthuse Guy with the joys of gardening was a limited success: "He sowed some Bizzie Lizzie seeds, then sat looking at them for an hour wondering when they were going to come through. Then he gave up."

- Liz Earle's Lifestyle *will be screened by ITV from June 24 at 2.20pm (regions may vary).*

Liz Earle with Lily and Guy in the children's play area

WEEKEND TIPS

- ■ Where fungicides are used, vary the type and ingredient so that immunity is not developed.
- ■ Water gladioli, stake if appropriate, and spray against aphids.
- ■ Prune brooms by cutting back by two thirds of last year's green branches. Avoid cutting into older wood.
- ■ Plant out pencil-thick seedling leeks, dropping them into 6in-deep holes and filling with water.
- ■ Thin new raspberry canes to six to eight per plant to improve the quality of fruit.
- ■ Attach a short length of hosepipe to outside taps so that cans may be filled on the ground.

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هكذا من الاصل

Ginny Dougary, converting a Thirties semi, encounters (and survives) a Nineties nightmare

Days of snags and ladders

Lack of taste is not the problem. Quite the reverse. Moroccan kasbah, Sikh chic or Greek chic, Zen elegance, industrial bit-of-rough, Shaker simplicity, a thousand shades of white on white, heritage ochre and dried blood or, perhaps, something more vibrant and Mediterranean . . . the problem is, I want them all.

The books, the magazines and, now, the television series, however addictive, are not helpful, offering an ever more bewildering and seductive menu of looks and themes to transform your home. What busy people need is less choice, which is why I came to use an interior designer.

We bought our house after a decade of living in the wide open spaces of America and Australia. Outside, it looked like a bog-standard Thirties semi. Inside, the previous owners had transformed it into a Tardis: the dingy Aunty Nora hallway leading into an open-plan living room, all light and glass, which overlooked a proper-sized garden. What a liberation after the suffocating uniformity of all the Victorian terraces we had seen, with their double fireplaces and knicker blinds.

The Tardis remained untouched for four years. But as our two small boys got bigger and my husband down-sized his job to spend more time at home, it was clear that we needed more space. We opted to convert our garage into a children's playroom and our attic into a parent's playroom. That was the easy bit. Between our decision and the builders moving in, nations rose and empires fell, Liam Gallagher graduated from the lower-fifth to world superstardom, and Britain's cows went mad.

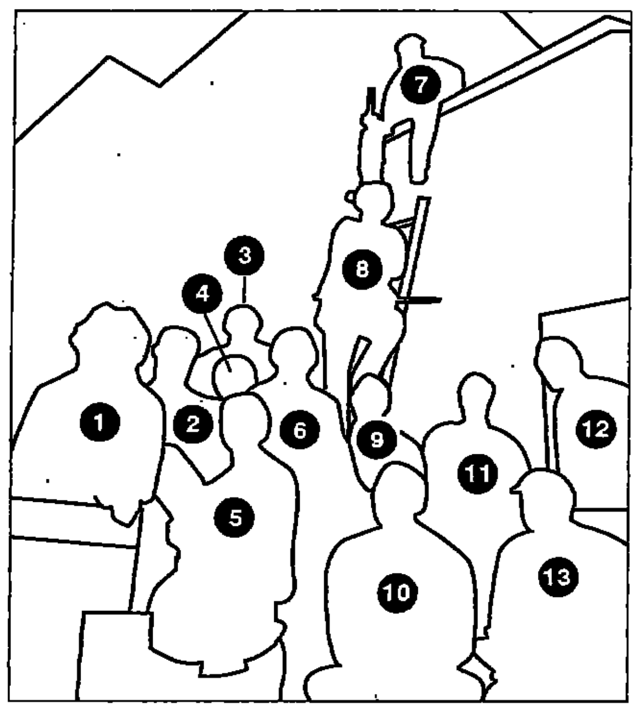
The months turned into years as the municipal planners did their unhelpful best. It was only on our third application that we were, finally, given the go-ahead. Since we were not intending to bastardise the exterior of the house — no plastic front doors or Gothic turrets for us — we were baffled by the intransigence of the planners.

Each rejection meant we had to shell out more money to the architect, as he struggled to read the planners' minds, while re-drafting his designs. The hapless homeowner is in a no-win situation. The process is like a sort of bureaucratic reverse Russian Roulette, where each application is shot down until, one day, for no discernible reason you suddenly strike lucky.

DENZIL McNEELANCE

KEY to the conversion team: **1** Ginny Dougary. **2** Bruce, the architect. **3** Les, roofer. **4** "Reckless Rod", the plumber. **5** Ana, interior designer. **6** "Staircase" Tony. **7** Tom "Smudge", roofer. **8** Martin, the building team boss. **9** Jo 90, chippie's mate. **10** Dave "Sparks", the electrician. **11** JP, chippie. **12** "Gentleman Jim", the painter. **13** Kevin, the floorer (no connection to Barry Bullshit).

Top right: the new staircase to the attic playroom



Bang goes the garage — to make way for a playroom

In the initial weeks, the work progressed suspiciously smoothly. Our builder, Martin, recommended by friends, was in danger of giving the trade a good name. Most of his men were so very merry they had us in constant convulsions of laughter.

For anyone who is new to this game, the sheer number of men who pass through your house is amazing. To build and decorate a small room appears to require the workforce of a Hollywood feature film. And the credits are equally interminable: Dave "Sparks", the electrician; JP, the chippy; Reckless Rod, the lugubrious plumber; Jim "Tosh", the painter, aka Gentleman Jim on account of his perfect manners; George and Mark, "The Spreads", wizard plastering brothers; Staircase Tony, the master craftsman; Les and Smudge, the roofers; Craig the Muscle, who moonlights as The Lobster Mobster at children's parties.

Before the work had even started, there were bubbles of tension below the calm surface. To keep costs down, we had decided to pay Bruce, the architect, purely for his designs (fabulous) and his ability to sweet-talk the planners (not so fabulous). The problem with this cut-price service is that the usual hostility between architects and builders is likely to escalate into a full-scale war. You, the employer, are left in the tricky position of having to decide whose judgment you trust more.

The staircase, leading up to the new attic room, was a major point of contest. Martin was convinced that Bruce had got his sums wrong. Bruce listened to his anxieties with an expression of frozen politeness on his face. Tony, the master craftsman, sucked away at his cigs, and declared that he could pull it off.

The job was supposed to take a week, but three weeks later it was still nowhere near completion. Every morning, Martin would greet us with a face like death and the words, "I've been having sleepless nights about the staircase".

Soon we were all having sleepless nights. The evening when Tony had finally installed the wretched thing was the worst of all. It fitted but looked horribly bulky and absurd rising out of such a narrow corridor.

It was Ana, the interior designer, who saved the day. It is astonishing what a difference you can make with a felt pen and a little imagination. She elbowed Tony aside (no mean feat, since she is a mere slip of a thing and he is the size of Robbie Coltrane) and got to work. In a few seconds, and with a few deft strokes, she had transformed the monolithic monstrosity into a Gaudi-esque thing of beauty.

Ana had been roped into our renovations because I was so impressed with what she had done to her own home. We thought it would be mutually advantageous: I would benefit from her terrific eye for colour and texture, and she could find out whether she would like to progress from her design course to become a fully-fledged interior decorator.

Because of our combined lack of experience and contacts, it was often a case of the blind leading the blind — with the difference that Ana could see what was "meant", and I could not. A great deal of time was (pleasantly) wasted in the pursuit of the look we were after. I wanted to go the whole fashion-victim hog: limed floors and coir, Moroccan blue in the lavatory and zinc in the kitchen. But never was a would-be victim so thwarted.

Coir is that nubbly, knotty, ropey stuff which looks a bit as though you've smeared soggy Shreddies all over your floors. I love it. But could I persuade anyone who stocked it to supply it? No. Peter Jones said it had a policy of not fitting it to stairs because it can become dangerously slippy. Or it can develop unsightly sags. And it is murder to clean. I tried at least three other local carpet fitters and they all tried to talk me out of buying it. We now have a wool carpet which looks cunningly like coir, but is three times as expensive.

Every building story has a nightmare. Ours was called Barry. Barry Bullshit, as he is known in our household, is a smooth-talking wood specialist who knows a hundred different ways to lime a floor, but doesn't have a clue about how to lay one. Unfortunately, we discovered this vital fact only after we had paid him for the wood and he'd ripped up half the house.

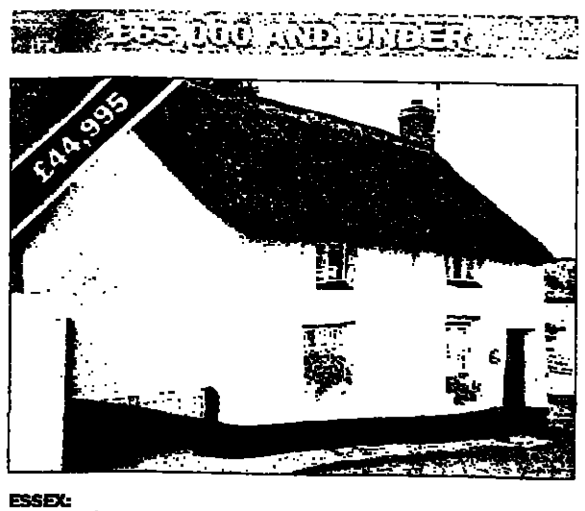
> 'Martin, our builder, was in danger of giving the trade a good name'

The first eruption came when Barry tried to shift the blame on to Martin. "Don't put words in my mouth... mate," Martin said, stony-faced. Never has "mate" sounded less matey. Barry practically begged to be sacked — a sure sign that he wasn't up to the job — and Martin stepped into the breach. The drama turned into a farce when, predictably, we discovered that we hadn't been left enough wood to complete the job. My husband, accompanied by Martin, turned up at Barry's brand new showroom to pick up the remaining planks, and Mr Bullshit attempted, unsuccessfully, to charge for the wood. A spirited exchange ensued... "Are you threatening me?" (Barry); "No, I'm just saying if you don't want me in your shop, I'll step outside." (Martin); "So you wanna fight?" (Barry); "All right, then." (Martin)... and ended by Barry calling the police. Our side departed as two police cars, sirens wailing, careered down the road. I had no idea that renovating could be so exciting.

No one tells you that when you start extending your house, you end by redecorating the lot. The Tardis is now a deeply tasteful oddity, with its parchment walls, recessed spotlighting and pale oak floors. Gentleman Jim has become a permanent fixture. Ana and I are still friends, but the experience made her realise that she wasn't cut out to dream up schemes for other people. So she's bought herself a new big house to play with, and Martin's Men have moved in.

FOR SALE

£65,000 AND UNDER



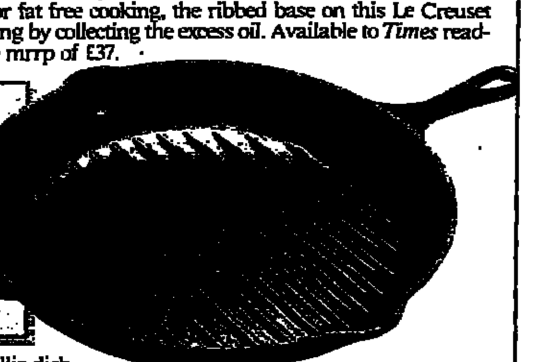
ESSEX:
Sugar Loaf Cottage, Drury Lane, Ridgewell. Detached period cottage with a rear courtyard in a popular north Essex village. Two bedrooms, shower-room, lounge/diner and kitchen. About £44,995 (GA Property Services, 01787 277107).

DEVON:
Reed Cottage, Hatherleigh. Thatched character cottage with a small garden in an attractive market town. Two bedrooms, bathroom, beamed living room with inglenook fireplace, kitchen/diner and utility room. About £55,750 (Millerson, 01837 54080).

DEVON:
Hillside, Well Street, Loddiswell, Nr. Kingsbridge. Semi-detached character cottage in the centre of a peaceful South Hams village. Four bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room. About £65,000 (Marchand Petit, 01548 857588).

CORNWALL:
3 Maymeare Terrace, St Tudy, Bodmin. Modernised mid-terraced cottage with a rear garden, in a sought-after village adjoining open countryside. Two bedrooms, bathroom, lounge, dining room and kitchen. About £59,950 (Andrew Jeffery, 01208 73298).

CHERYL TAYLOR



SAVE £8 ON THIS STYLISH GRILLIT PAN

Le Creuset round grillit pan

just £29 inc. p&p

The Times and Le Creuset, the French cookware company, offer you the chance to buy this stylish round grillit pan, with black enamel surface, a cast iron handle and 10 1/4" diameter. Following the growing interest in low fat or fat free cooking, the ribbed base on this Le Creuset grillit offers advantages to this style of cooking by collecting the excess oil. Available to Times readers for only £29 each, a saving of £8 on the mrrp of £37.

Suggested recipe from Le Creuset Home Economist, Sue Cutts.

GRILLED CHICKEN WITH CORIANDER AND LIME:

Serves 4

4 boneless chicken breasts, skinned.
Marinade: 2 tablespoons corn oil;
finely grated rind of one lime;
4 tablespoons of lime juice;
2 tablespoons fresh chopped coriander;
freshly ground black pepper.

1. Put the pieces of chicken into a non metallic dish.
2. Mix together all the marinade ingredients, pour over the chicken and leave to stand for 1-2 hours. Just before grilling lift the chicken out of the marinade and pat dry on absorbent kitchen paper.
3. Heat the grillit and oil lightly. Cook the chicken breasts for 4-5 minutes each side. A little of the marinade can be brushed over the chicken as it cooks. Garnish with wedges of lime and sprigs of fresh coriander.

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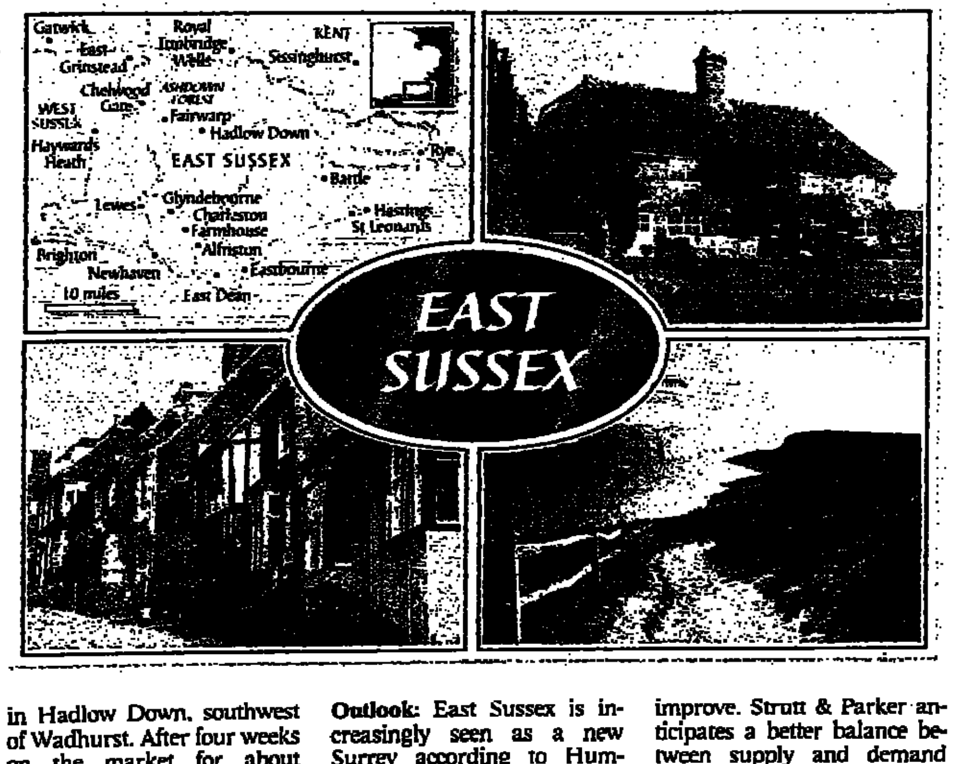
PROPERTY PROFILE: EAST SUSSEX

A weekly look at the property market around Britain



Attractions: agents present a seemingly never-ending catalogue of the delights of the county, once home to Rudyard Kipling; Glyndebourne; the gardens at Sissinghurst; Charleston Farmhouse, near Lewes, once host to Vanessa Bell and members of the Bloomsbury Group. Areas within ten miles of Hayward's Heath over the border are sought after by commuters. Villages in the South Downs between Eastbourne and Lewes are also in demand, such as Alfriston and East Dean, as are Fairwarp and Chelwood Gate, on the fringes of the Ashdown Forest. Good access to Gatwick, but many bemoan the lack of decent road links.

The market: hot in prime areas, says Strutt & Parker, which now has 40 per cent more buyers on its books than at the end of 1988. Knight Frank has 300 applicants for just over 25 properties. Prices have risen by up to 20 per cent in the past year, says Humberts in Lewes, and the market is driven by the London ripple effect. Prices fell heavily in the middle of 1989, some by up to 50 per cent.

Expect to pay: between £175,000 to £275,000 for a cottage; £300,000 to £475,000 for a farmhouse with one to five acres; £400,000 to £450,000 for a medium-sized country house. The big Georgian manor houses are going for anything from £750,000 to £1 million, says Knight Frank. Prices depend heavily on the commutability. Greatest demand is for four to five-bedroom country houses, with one to five acres at £300,000 to £600,000, Cluttons says. More than 75 per cent of buyers over the past two years have come from outside the area, Strutt & Parker says, and many are cash buyers from London, often with City bonuses.

Major sales: contracts were exchanged earlier this month on Crowpits (pictured above right), a 17th-century Grade II listed property with 20 acres, in Hadlow Down, southwest of Wadhurst. After four weeks on the market for about £400,000, the property went to best and final offers, going for somewhere between £550,000 and £600,000.

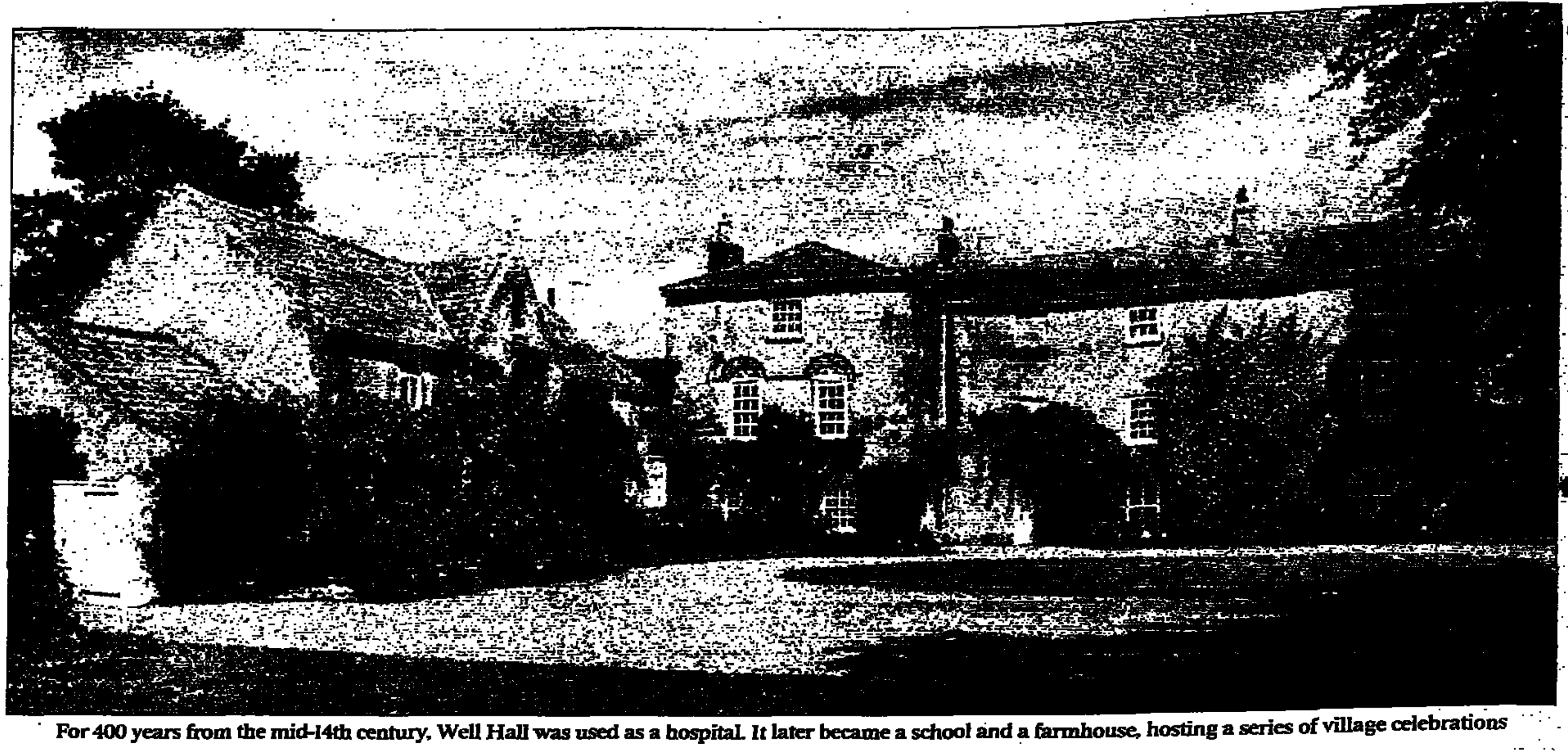
Outlook: East Sussex is increasingly seen as a new Surrey according to Humberts, which reckons that prices will continue to rise apace, by about 10 per cent a year, but adds that supply will improve. Strutt & Parker anticipates a better balance between supply and demand and a less artificial market.

AMANDA LOOSE

● *Next week: Devon*

Well Hall has a 13th-century cloistered dining room and a headless ghost but it still makes an appealing family home

All's well that ends well



For 400 years from the mid-14th century, Well Hall was used as a hospital. It later became a school and a farmhouse, hosting a series of village celebrations

Well Hall does not let go so easily. At least two previous owners live nearby and the present owners, Liz and Geoffrey Dodsworth, do not plan to move far. "It possesses you," Mrs Dodsworth says. "I find it hard to leave, even for a few days."

Mr and Mrs Dodsworth are not sentimentalists. Mr Dodsworth is an international banker and shipping consultant who used to run his own merchant bank. Both have a sense of history and an appreciation that, as Mr Dodsworth puts it, "you are only passing through a property like this".

The Grade I listed hall, in the North Yorkshire village of Well, near Bedale, dates from the 13th century. The village, the site of a Roman encampment, is mentioned in the Domesday Book. For 400 years, from the mid-14th century, *the hall was the site of a hospital* before substantial Georgian additions were made, and it was used, variously, as a school, farmhouse *and private home. The house has* connections with the Cecil family of Burghley House, the Nevilles of Middleham Castle, the Latimers of Snape Castle, and Catherine Parr, *the sixth wife of Henry VIII. In this* century, the Duke of Kent danced around the drawing room.

If all that does not tickle your historical fancy, the house comes with a headless knight. "He's very friendly," Mrs Dodsworth says. "I've never seen him but a woman in the village, who babysat here in the Fifties and Sixties, says she always felt a friendly presence."

The hall's most astonishing feature — and one for which its mellow, rose and wisteria-covered exterior least prepares — is the 13th-century dining room. Technically an "undercroft", this stone-vaulted room — four bays divided by three sandstone pillars — stretches the width of the house and is rare in secular buildings. Imagine dining in the vaulted cloisters or crypt of a cathedral or abbey and you have the picture. Only a Philistine could sit beneath those arches and not feel the weight and wonder of the previous 700 years.

It was sufficient, in 1983, to persuade the Dodsworths to move 200 miles from Hertfordshire, with their two children. "We wanted to bring them up in a more settled environment, in the 'real' country," they say. Mr Dodsworth continued to commute occasionally to London which, at two hours and 20 minutes, was only one hour longer than his previous journey and, as he points out, with all the added benefits of village life, the North York moors and excellent riding country right on his doorstep. The house has stabling for six horses, tack room, hay loft, paddock and a five-acre field, and is conveniently placed for the Bedale and Vale of York hunts.

Although the house is big — three reception rooms, five bedrooms, three bathrooms, dressing room, upstairs sitting room, breakfast room and attic, all none smaller than 11ft by 10ft — it does not feel grand or formal. Comfortable is the word. This is possibly something to do with low ceilings, beams, plain walls (no walls are even, so wallpaper is tricky) and generous window seats. As an indication of size, the York stone-flagged hall can comfortably take a grand piano and the village Christmas carol singers, while the dining room has sat 80 people at separate tables.

The hall is well suited to entertaining. As the central house of the village, the Dodsworths have opened their home to the VE-Day celebrations, harvest suppers, musical and charity evenings. It is not a compulsory duty of the owners, Mr Dodsworth says, "but it's a nice house and we like to share it. We feel it belongs to the village".

The rooms are not showily decorated. Except for the children's bedrooms, the Dodsworths have chosen simple, neutral colours, the better to show off the architectural features. In the sitting room, for example, there is a fine, carved oak fire surround which the *cognoscenti* will note is made by Thomson of nearby Kilburn (a running mouse is the Thomson trademark).

In the more formal drawing room, the Georgian cornicing has been picked out in delicate gold and yellow. The gold and black marble fireplace is an eye-catcher (though Mrs Dodsworth says it is difficult to match with curtains). Roll back the carpet and you can create an instant mini ballroom, with the sprung wooden floor on which the Duke of Kent did his turn. A frequent visitor to the area — he married the former Katherine Worsley from nearby Hovingham Hall — he was also an acquaintance of the previous owner, Dame Margot Smith.

The grandest room, apart from the dining room, is the master bedroom. In here, one could play rounders and not damage the furniture. The windows are medieval copies in original medieval casements, while the walls are covered in a bold, William Morris-style print (plasterboard solved the problem of uneven walls).

The top-floor children's bedrooms are vast, though tangerine walls are not perhaps to everyone's taste. From here, on a clear day, you can see 20 miles over to the North York moors.

Even the indefatigable Dodsworths ran out of steam when they reached this high, however. A 41ft attic room, stretching the width of the house and with original timbered and lettered roof joists, is still awaiting inspiration. A penthouse suite? A studio? A train set?

Despite, or rather because of its size, the house has a number of practical features. The central heating, for example, is divided into five separate zones; there are three telephone lines and 16 extensions; and there are enough cupboards and wardrobes embedded in the deep walls to satisfy the most fastidious of butlers and housekeepers. Teenagers can be shut away in the "snug" — a room accessible only via a staircase out of the kitchen — and left to do their own thing. Punk-painted walls, a bank of electric sockets and a row of empty champagne bottles perched along the roof beam indicate that the Dodsworth juniors (now flown the nest) did just that.

This is not a house for the lazy, unless lazy with servants. (The adjoining two-bedroom cottage, which Mr Dodsworth uses as his office, could be used for live-in staff.) The two-acre grounds include a heated swimming pool, tennis court (in need of attention), barn, paddock, stabling, well stocked kitchen garden, fruit trees, terrace and walled garden. Set in the corner of the latter is a timber-framed summerhouse, where the sun lingers.

With the distant cooing of wood pigeons, the call of an owl and the church clock chimes drifting over the adjoining churchyard wall, it is almost too perfect.

Later, as I drove away towards the hot and sticky A1, dreaming of a dip in the swimming pool, I realised that I had left behind some important files. I turned back. It's true: Well Hall does not let go easily.

HELEN PICKLES

● *Agent: Strutt & Parker, 01423 561274.*

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

Well Hall, Well, Bedale, North Yorkshire

● **Guide price:** £650,000, including two-bedroom cottage.

● **Travel:** from Northallerton (20 minutes away), London is two hours and 20 minutes by train. Six miles to A1, 35 minutes to Teeside Airport.

● **Shopping:** village post office but no shop, though milk and meat can be delivered. Excellent butchers, fishmonger and delicatessen in nearby Masham and Snape. Ripon (eight miles) and Northallerton (14 miles) are good market towns, with supermarkets. Harrogate (20 miles) and York (35 miles) offer upmarket shops and antique boutiques.

● **Schools:** abundance of private and state schools within 35 miles, including Ripon Grammar, Harrogate Grammar, Ampleforth College, The Mount and Bootham.

● **Entertainment:** hunting with Bedale and Vale of York, racing at Catterick, York, Thirsk and Ripon. Village quoits, plus village cricket at Masham. Theatres in Richmond, York and Leeds.

The cloistered dining room and the tower of the church next door, which overlooks the garden

CHESTER ROW, SW1.
A period house with an attractive garden and elegant first floor drawing room.
5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, utility room/2nd kitchen and garden.
Lease to 2040
Price Guide: £1,050,000
BELGRAVIA: 0171-730 9854

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EDWARDES SQUARE, W8. Freehold Price Guide: £1,500,000
A well decorated Georgian house with a west facing garden and access to the communal gardens. 5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, shower room, 2 reception rooms, kitchen/dining room with conservatory, utility room and cloakroom.
KENSINGTON: 0171 727 0705

ANHALT ROAD, SW11.
A delightful Victorian house, with a cleverly enlarged loft, by Battersea Park and Albert Bridge.
5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, reception room, kitchen, playroom, utility area and garden.
Freehold
Price Guide: £525,000
BATTERSEA: 0171-228 0174

OXFORD, Harcourt Hill. Price Guide: £450,000
A large contemporary house in an elevated position with views across Oxford Spires and grounds of about 0.4 ha (1.1 acres). 6 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, cloakroom, 3 reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, self contained flat and garage.
OXFORD: 01865 311522

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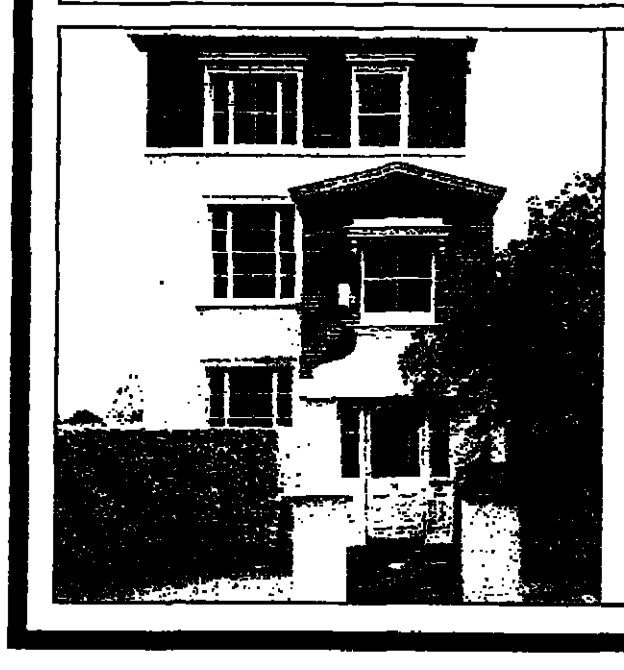
EAST SUSSEX, Framfield. For sale as a whole or in two lots.
A fine listed period house, adjacent converted oast and a range of period farm buildings.
Lot 1: 5 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, 2 bedroom oast house, gardens and paddocks.
Lot 2: Barn, stables, workshops, yard, paddocks and pond.
JSA FREEMAN FORMAN: 01825 766636 EAST GRINSTEAD: 01342 326326



GREENWICH, SW10.
An impressive five storey Victorian house on a hill top site with views from the upper floors.
5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, studio/bedroom 6, 2 reception rooms, study, cloakroom, kitchen, utility room and garden.
Freehold
Price Guide: £675,000
HEAD OFFICE: 0171-493 4106

LEXHAM GARDENS, W8. Lease to 2122 Price Guides: £405,000 & £525,000
Two flats on the 2nd and 3rd/4th floors in a new development. Flat 5: 3 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, utility room and 2 terraces.
Flat 6: 2 beds, bath, shower room, 2 reception rooms, kitchen and lift.
JSA FARLEY & CO 0171-589 1234 KENSINGTON: 0171-727 0705

REGENT'S PARK, NW1.
A lovely 2nd and 3rd floor maisonette in a listed building with views of Regent's Park.
2 bedrooms, bathroom, shower room, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, underground parking for 2 cars and resident porterage.
Lease to 2085
Price Guide: £425,000
ST JOHN'S WOOD: 0171-722 5556

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NORTH OF THE THAMES

BAKER STREET Chiltern Crt. 2 bed flat, 5th flr, study, lift, porter, £260,000. 0171 724 9919

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BROOK GREEN W14. 2 bed s/cnd flr hse flat-totally refurbd. 20x11 liv rm. 11x11 & 11x56 beds £135K. Nick on 0171 602 4007 or 776 2671

FULHAM 2 bed bargain overl Bishops Park. £135K. 0171 371 6721 for details T. Hoskins.

GRATTON RD, W14. 1st flr 2 bed, 2 recep, split lev. flat. Good order. £149,500 Leasehold. Finlay Brewer 0171 371 4171

HAMMERSMITH TERRACE A fine mid-terraced property adjacent to the river. Recep rm, kit/b'fast, 4 beds, bath, s/s shwr rm, cellar, gdn. £410,000 F/H. Foxtons 0181 996 6002

HAMPSTEAD, NW3. Lge 2 double bedrm top flr flat, fitted kitch, share freehold. Use of garden. £195,000 ono. 0171 431 2141

LITTLE VENICE W2 Rare opp to acquire mod 3 bed house F/H £364,950 ILP 0171 625 1266.

LITTLE VENICE/Maida Vale. The specialist local agents. Vickers & Co 0171 289 1692

MARYLEBONE NW1 Excellent 2 bed maisonette separate garage Close Regents Park. £182,500 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

MELINA ROAD W12 Double fronted 3 dbl bed hse, lge rec, k & b, lge roof terr £175,000 F/H. Sturges 0181 740 9933.

NW6 cottage style, gdn flat. Inglenook fireplace, 2 bedrooms. Kilburn/Maida Vale borders. quick sale, so cash buyers only £89,960. 0181 780 3005 or pager 0181 812 2679.

PIMLICO Stylish 2 bed maisonette high ceilings, terrace. £175,000. 0171 221 9044

SOUTHGATE N14. 2 bd, 2 flr (Top) Flat, Sunny. 96yr lse. 3 yrs old. Pkg, 3 mins Pic Tube/shops amen. £89,950 :0181 8825586

WARWICK RD, W5. Charming 2 bedrm, 2 recep, mid-terrace cottage with 48ft garden. £150,000 F/H. 0171 371 4171

WIMPOLE ST W1 Beautiful 2 bed flat in small block. Close centre Town. L/H 59 yrs £195,000 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

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Stunning split level penthouse of dramatic proportions with panoramic views 33ft drawing room with oak flooring, fully fitted kitchen, galleried bedroom suite, 2nd bedroom & additional bathroom. GCH. Long lease. Security parking. Must be viewed.

£325,000 leasehold.

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superb location within 30 mins Westend/city in exclusive private Road

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Convenient for City & Westend.

Freehold

£250,000

0171-580-1706

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BATTERSEA Queenstown Rd. 2 superb newly mod 2 d. bed flats, roof terraces. £129,000. 01747 871881/0706 0011730

CLAPHAM charming, 4 bed, 2 recp, Vic terr hse, in quite, with S.facing gdn, in old town, £285,000 ready exchange to call Tim: 07000 112112.

CONSERVATION AREA SE15 Early Victorian 2 dble bed character house with interconnecting lounge, kit/break rm, 75ft rear gdn. £127,500 Fhold. Bushells 0181 299 1722

CONSERVATION Area SE15. Early Vict 2 dble bed hse, kit/brk rm, 75'rear gdn. £127,500 Fh. Bushells 0181 299 1722

BATTERSEA

Well presented 3 Bed Victorian house in desirable road. Large fit/din rm, (24ft) Kitchen (19ft). Doors to garden. downstairs loo, upstairs 2 bed and bright bath. Easy access to central London.

£225,000 Freehold

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no agents please

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For further information please contact Jeremy Payne on 0171 223 2252

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£235,000.

Tel: 0181 8714470/ 0956 642550 no chain. Private

CLAPHAM, SW4

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£450,000 Freehold

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BELGRAVIA SW1 1st floor lateral conversion situated in this exclusive location. 3 bedrooms, bathroom, drawing room, kitchen. Lease 38 years approx. £250,000. J.S.A. Aldine Honey & Co 0171 834 4901 / Best Gapp 0171 730 9253

SW1

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BARBICAN Studio in good condition with balcony o'looks garden. £82,500 Leasehold. Daniel Watney 0171 253 4414.

BARBICAN 2nd flr 2 bed 'Type 21' apt. £167,500 Leasehold. Daniel Watney 0171 253 4414.

WAPPING E1. Spacious Victorian w/house conv, o/looking park with side river view, lge recep, 2 bed, 2 bath, secure parking, low maintenance, porter. £190,000. Tel: Sun 0171 481 0552 or w/days 0181 318 2781

WC1 1 bed man blk, porter, lifts, 79yr lse, immaculate, £115,000 Banbury & Ball 0171 833 4466.

WC1 Immaculate 1 double bed mansion apartment 5 mins tube £94,000. 0171 221 9044

W2 delightful charming mews hse, 5 mins from Hyde Park, Master bed e/s bath, 2 futher beds, 2 baths, lge recp, ff/kit, pvt gge, LH. £415,000 eve 0171 706 1288 day 0467 385394.

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£79,950 ono

0171 987 2972

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LYNDHURST WAY SE15

large period family home on 4 floors, 4 beds, 2 recep huge kit with aga, off street parking, mature garden, good condition

Free Hold £220,000

0973 111 848

FULHAM

SW6 2ble bed flat, 1st flr, good condition, quiet & convenient loc, £245 pw 0976 985502

GREENWICH

GREENWICH

Newly built 3 bed period town houses within conservation area, 10 year NHBC guarantee. Town centre and station 5 mins walk. OIRO £265,000. Contact vendor direct on

0181 6911681
Fax 0181 694 2630
Mobile 0468 826155

HAMPSTEAD

S.HAMPSTD NW6 2 bd 2 bth upp mais Must be viewed! L/H £185,000 ILP 0171 625 1266

W.HAMPSTD NW6 4 bed 3 storey E.O.T. house 12-13 yrs old F/H £215,000 ILP 0171 625 1266

ASMUNS PLACE

NW11, 2 bedroom listed cottage south facing garden

£170,000

0181 4585863

HIGHBURY/ ISLINGTON

BARNSBURY N1.

Substantial four-floored end of terrace period property with garage. Situated in sought after, tree lined residential street in Barnsbury, Islington N1. This family house is light and spacious with gas central heating, a pretty walled garden and well proportioned rooms retaining original features. Comprehensive tube, rail and bus links. £525,000 F/H (vendors not in chain).

Tel: 0171 607 3581

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Spacious 2 bed period flat with garden. Large reception, bath, cloaks, fully equipped kitchen, 5 mins central Islington, ready for immediate occupation. Leasehold but price includes freehold of whole building.

£250,000.

Ring J Woodward to view. 0171 6004212 (office) 01869 277214 (home).

KENSINGTON & CHELSEA

CHELSEA SW10. Large period mansion flat on Coleherne Court garden side, quiet, 3 bedrs, 2 recaps, 2 bathrs, lift. £400K. 0171 371 6721 T. Hoskins for details.

CHELSEA Smart studio flat in centrally located, serviced mansion block. Quiet, light, 1st floor. £125,000. Long lease. 01263 740774 / 0836 255346

CHELSEA Embank. 2 bedr houseboat, sun terrace £98K. Details: 0171 371 6721. T. Hoskins.

HOLLAND PARK W11 Excellent cond. 4th flr. In sought after area of Holland Park. 1 bed, recep, kit, U/ground pkng, lock up garage, lifts, comm gdns. £230,000 0171 221 5800

HOLLAND PARK Exquisite 4/5 bed, 3 bth apt 2 rec. Beaut priv gdn. F/H Includes 1 bed separable flat. £695,000. 0171 221 9044

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QUEEN'S GATE TERR SW7 Light lwr ground flr. In good dec. order of this period building. 1 bedroom, recep, kit, hall/study, bath, U/Vault storage w / w.c. £205,000. 0171 221 5800

CHELSEA

Terraced House.

Open plan - 4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, double recep room, family room, kitchen, laundry room, study, storage room, cellar, garden. Freehold

Priv sale £875,000

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OIRO £1.5M

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Queens Gate

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L/H £299K

0171 244 0773

QUEENSGATE GDNS, SW7

Large studio, newly refurbished, *separate bed area and patio*

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CORNER LOGAN PL, SW5

Newly refurbished, 1 double, 1 single bedrm, Interior designed, open plan kitchen.

£169,950

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NOTTING HILL

PEMBRIDGE Gdns W2. 1 bed 2nd fl flat exc cond long lease no chain £125,000 0171 2218486

HOLLAND PARK.

Mod 3 bed/2 bath, 2 rec, Gge, Mews Hse. Secure, R/Terr osp. F/H £325,000. Viewing Sunday.

Tel: 0171 7271549

no agents

RICHMOND & KINGSTON

SW14. Mortlake. Totally refurb 3 bed. Vic Cott in cons area, £188,000: 0181 3390845

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CHESHIRE

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Set in wooded parkland close to Plymouth Sound. Private beach, harbour, tennis court, pool. Two bedrooms. Excellent condition. Uninterrupted sea and costal views. Spectacular location.

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Fax:01752-822063.

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No Agents.

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Charming Period Cottage, out standing views across the valley. One of the most popular areas of Gloucestershire, immaculately presented good size kit/bthrm, lge drawrm, new fitted trad bathrm, 2 dble bdrms priv gdn, gge & roof terrace. Ex investment ideal as a 2nd home and/or as a long or short term let, very good returns. £180,000.

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¼ mile SW corner.

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on edge of village, en suite, utility room, real flame gas fire, fitted kitchen with oven, hob and extracter, alarm, double glazed, gas central heating, quiet Cul De Sac location, short drive Derby, Nottingham, M1 junc 25 and East Midlands airport. £97,500

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South facing, ground floor apartment in converted Georgian Country House. Set in peaceful valley (no through road), 9.5 miles from Exeter. 2 beds, 1 en-suite, 2nd bathroom. Kit/Breakfast room. Original dual aspect drawing room with views over beautiful countryside. Private and communal gardens. Hard tennis court & croquet lawn. Secondary glazing throughout. Must be seen! Video available. £165K Tel:01626 891619

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18C character cottage. 3 bed, 2 bath, lnge, wood burner, kit, rayburn, gge + roof sit. area. £83,000.

For further details call 01548 560994.

DORSET

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EAST ANGLIA

S. CAMBS/ESSEX/ HERTS BORDER

Large secluded Elizabethan thatched cottage.

1 acre, glorious views.
6 beds, 3 rec, 2 kits, 2 baths.
Quiet village between Royston and S Walden. London 50 mins train (Kings X or L'pool St.)
£300,000.

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3-4 minutes Thorpe bay BR station.

£195,000
01702 480625
01702 584201

ESSEX

GIDEA PARK RM2

1938 Semi corner house double bay 3 beds fitted wardrobes bathroom + large shower room large through lounge sun room kitchen dining area utility room lovely secluded garden large patio 5mins walk station 24mins Liverpool St. Close schools and golf courses detached brick and tile garage parking for 3 cars. £145,000.

01708 741237

HEREFORDSHIRE

ROSS-ON-WYE Elegant det Victorian house ½ mile town centre & river. 4 recep, 6 beds. Easily maintained walled town garden £215,000. John Perry Estate Agency, 52 Broad Street, Ross-on-Wye. 01989 768484.

HERTFORDSHIRE

HERTS/ESSEX Border

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01279 793195.

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Region £900,000

Winchester office 01962 842742

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Offers in excess of £110,000

Andover office 01264 366616

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KENT. Near to Leeds Castle Estate. Detached 3 bedroomed village cottage with garden. Price: £149,000. Lambert & Foster 01580 891919.

KENT Chart Sutton. A splendid listed newly refurbished former hall house with magnificent southerly views over the Kentish Weald. Newly constructed garage & stabling. Gardens & grounds extending to approx 3 acres. Lambert & Foster 01580 891919.

BIDBOROUGH RIDGE, Nr TUNBRIDGE WELLS.

A spacious modern detached character house occupying approx ⅓ acre in sought after village location with fantastic panoramic view over Sevenoaks Weald. 4/5 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms (1 en suite) lounge with inglenook fireplace, Dining room, study, kitchen/breakfast room. Rear garden laid to large area of lawn, Mature flower beds/borders, patio terrace, 2 ponds, mature conifers and superb outlooks over farmland. Detached Double garage partly converted to office/study. Excellent access road/rail & Tonbridge, Sevenoaks & Tunbridge Wells Schools & Shopping. Guide price £365,000 Freehold. 01892 529576 or 01732 882258

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OIRO £140,000

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01797 344072.

COUNTRY PROPERTY

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Set in an idyllic valley amongst beautiful Chiltern countryside, a unique development of three 4/5 bedroom thatched homes with grounds of between 1.4 to 2.8 acres together with a 5 bedroom farmhouse and 2 bedroom detatched cottage set in approximately 7 acres. Marlow 3 miles.

PRICE GUIDE £450,000 – £895,000

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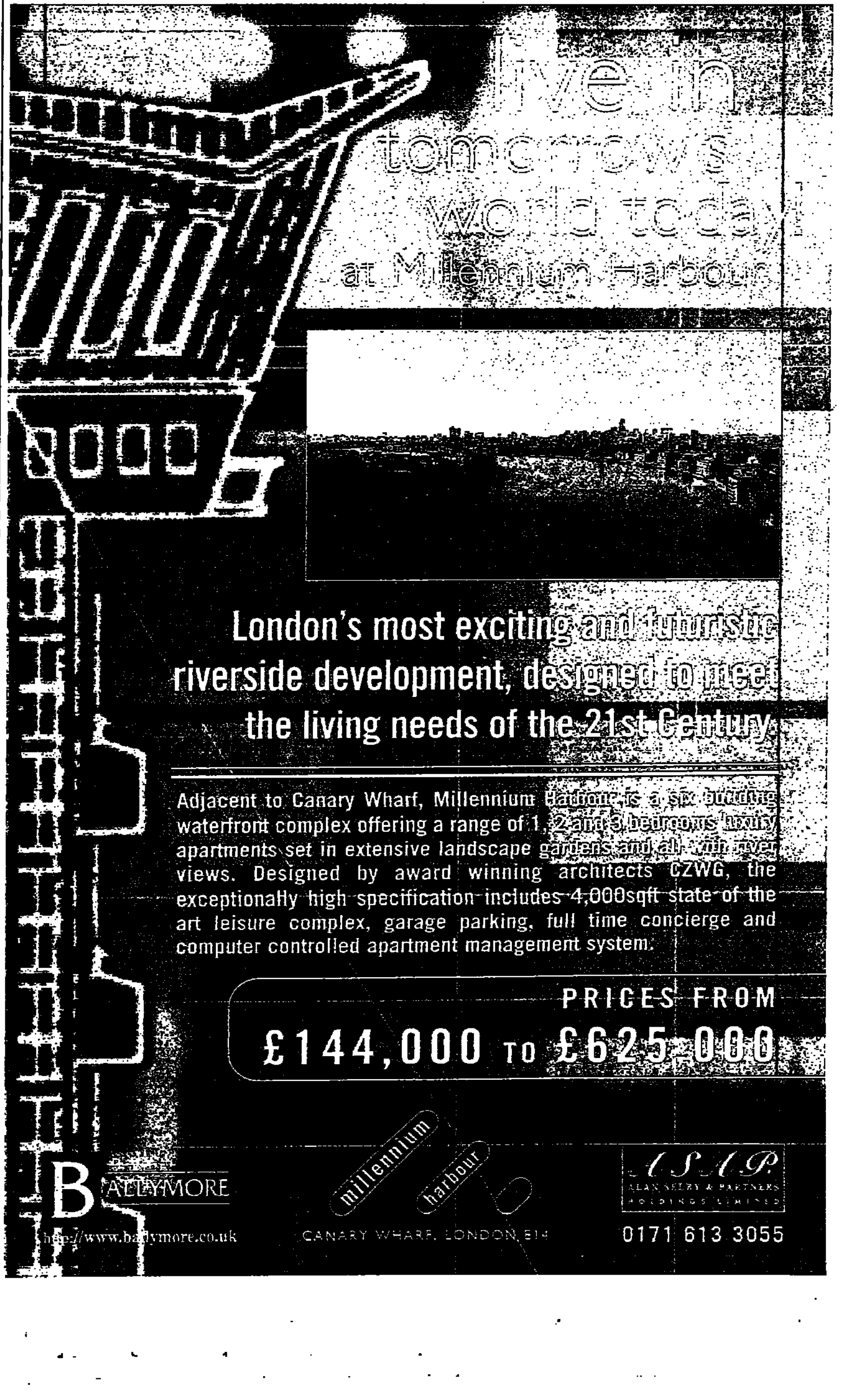
Michael Shanly Homes

Michael Shanly Homes, Sorbon, Aylesbury End, Beaconsfield. Tel: 01494 681500

LONDON PROPERTY



London's most exciting and futuristic riverside development, designed to meet the living needs of the 21st Century.

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millennium harbour
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ASAP
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The agent who is a cut below

Think twice before using estate agents who offer cut-price fees, says **Faith Glasgow**

ROY ELLSWORTH

You want to sell your house. It's a genteel residence in a desirable road — just the kind of place, according to the eager agents to whom you've chatted, to generate a swarm of equally eager buyers. It should sell in a matter of days, they assure you, tongues hanging out.

The agents flock round to view and value. One will charge you 2.5 per cent on a sole agent basis: another quotes 0.5 per cent less, which on a house of £250,000 or so is a saving that could translate into a new bathroom for the place you have your eye on. A third knocks an additional 0.25 per cent off. That's a saving of £1,875 on the first agent's price; how can you lose?

Recent stories of commission rates of 1.25 or even 1 per cent are not uncommon, though the standard rate is 2 to 2.5 per cent. One southwest London agent cites the case of a desperate competitor who offered to sell a house for nothing, simply to be able to get his board up in the street.

So should you be seduced by lower fees when you are instructing an agent? After all, it could be argued, it's a sellers' market: buyers are thick on the ground and an offer might easily be secured with a handful of telephone calls if the price is realistic. Sounds like picnic time for estate agents, even on a slim-line fee.

Most agents, unsurprisingly, kick back against this scenario, on the grounds that making a quick sale is one thing, but doing the best for your client, the vendor, is quite another. Getting the best price involves considerable work, commitment and resources, they protest, and if you cut your margin too drastically you simply don't have those resources to draw on.

"We're all reluctant to admit that we cut fees, but of course everybody does," says one long-established country agent. "We're selling a service so we have to charge market rates. But agents will look at a property and make a judgment based on how much they want it, and whether it will be hard work to sell. If it is a miserable place and too much is being asked, they won't be prepared to bend on fees. If it is gorgeous, most of us will start thinking, 'What can I do to ensure I get the instruction rather than someone else?' "

The negotiable margin depends to some extent on the value of the property: the agent will find it easier to justify charging 1.5 per cent on a £1 million house than a £100,000 flat. It also depends on stock levels; taking on any instruction is more significant if an agent is short of places to sell.

Jonathan Harvey of Friend & Falcke points out that too many agents are now competing. "It's the small agents and the newcomers who cut their fee to get the turn-over," he says. Established agents, while they may shift by up to, say, 0.5 per cent, will walk away rather than play the fee-slashing game in earnest.

"The market is somewhat quieter since the election," Ivor Dickinson of Douglas & Gordon says, "but before May agents would take on the houses at 0.25 per cent. Inexperienced newcomers tend to be the worst; not only do they have low overheads, but they also don't pay for quality staff or good marketing."

Reputable companies regard them as cowboys and on the whole they are not making enough to survive in the long term. "I've seen lots of agents come and go; they thought they were being clever by reducing their fees, but they don't have the resources to do the job in the end," Philip Green of Goldschmidt & Howland says. Nonetheless, such behaviour sets an uncomfortable precedent for the industry as a whole, and encourages sellers to focus on fee levels rather than other important considerations when choosing an agent.

But why should vendors complain at stiff competition among agents if their house is under offer in the end? Many would argue that it's a matter of horses for courses; after all, how can any meaningful comparison be made between what one agent achieves with a property (assuming he gets the asking price), and what another might have got if he had been given the instruction?

The bottom line is that agents — except those slashing their fees drastically and therefore selling themselves on that fact — do not want to be judged on the grounds of what they charge, but on service and success. "There's a difference between the vendor taking the commission into account and making it the catalyst for the sale," Simon Banks of Friend & Falcke's Barnes office says.

Sellers are paying extra commission, in effect, for the agent to make the effort to get punters through the door and thereby establish a demand-led price. "If I charge the standard 2 per cent on a place, I won't just sell to the first people I get in: I'll send out particulars to 100 people, show 30 people round, get three or four offers and sell it for £220,000 instead of £200,000," Mr Dickinson says.

Decent marketing — which costs — is one element of that process. It can vary enormously: promotion may range from two sides of blurry photocopied details, up to glossy brochures and advertisements in the local and national press. For upmarket properties, where marketing costs can be high, agents may be flexible on how much advertising they will cover in fees. Conrad Payne of Cluttons' Canterbury office says: "The usual fee would include local colour adverts and some contribution towards a showing in *Country Life*, if it's the right sort of house. If I had agreed a 1.5 per cent fee I'd be unlikely to pay for *Country Life*." Cluttons also produces floor plans and several pages of details, colour photographs and a map of the area.

"I did a really distinctive brochure recently for a house, and got good press coverage — and more than 300 inquiries. There were 11 parties who were prepared to pay higher than the guide price, and three firm offers," Mr Payne says.

Established companies (unlike fledgling agents) should have a good supply of good potential buyers already on tap. And it is in their interest, as well as the vendor's, to ensure that interested parties are "hot applicants" — buyers in a position to close a deal promptly. Peter Rollings of Foxtons gives the example of a maisonette in Earls Court which exchanged with his firm for more than £300,000 within 48 hours, after six weeks unsold with a competitor. "We expect to get good prices because we put properties in front of many people," he says.

Vendors are also paying for expertise — in-depth knowledge of local prices and accurate valuations, though in a fast-moving market that can be a challenge. Multiple agency arrangements — where several agents compete and the winner takes the full commission — are more common in London. The line is that the vendor pays well to ensure the best possible price, but it is a controversial system. David Froggatt of Jackson Stops & Staff, in Burford, argues that it can work against vendor and agent. "If a sale is on a sole or joint split-fee basis then the agent knows he'll definitely get a fee and will use his best endeavours to get a good price. If he's one of, say, four, and only the one who brings in the buyer gets the fee, he knows there's only a 25 per cent chance of success, however good he is. That's not good psychology.

"Also, if an offer comes in, there's the temptation to push the sale through just to get in first and get the fee, rather than hang on to see if it can be improved. Anyway, when buyers see the same property in several agents' windows they wonder what's wrong with it."

● *Friend & Falcke, 0171-878 4942; Douglas & Gordon, 0171-730 8077; Goldschmit & Howland, 0171-724 4404; Foxtons, 0171-590 1000; Cluttons, Canterbury, 01227 457441; Jackson Stops & Staff, Burford, 01993 822661.*

TIPS ON FEES

WHILE there may well be an element of flexibility on estate agents' fees, don't allow this to dictate your choice. An agent who earns you an extra 5 per cent on your house price has more than earned the extra 0.5 per cent commission. The following considerations are of equal if not more importance:

■ Go to the right kind of agent for your property type; they will be more familiar with local market movements and recent comparable transactions. They will also have the right kinds of buyers on their books.

■ Keep your eyes open for personal recommendations. Some agents (Goldschmidt & Howland, in Hampstead, for instance) will put you in touch with satisfied clients to talk to.

■ Always get three or four valuations.

■ Beware your own greed. An unrealistically high figure rarely appears ridiculous. Some agents will overvalue by as much as 10 per cent to get an instruction, and have to reduce the price when it doesn't sell.

■ Find out about marketing and advertising plans. Where will your property appear, and who will pick up the bill?

■ Use your instinct. Does this agent seem professional, energetic, well organised, committed? Do you like them? If agents can't market themselves how will they do a good job on your house?

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All I want is a house somewhere, far away from the cold night air – with log walls, a turf roof – oh, *wouldn't* it be lover-ly

Why I pine for a little log cabin

DOWN TO **EARTH**

PAUL HEINEY

Here we go again. Another crazy idea born out of a romantic notion: a brainwave so fanciful that at first I hardly dared share it with you. However, since the matter of rural housing is going to become increasingly pressing over the next decade if the expanding population is to be housed, if one has an idea one feels duty bound to share it, as the Prince of Wales might say.

Is not the only problem with rural housing development the fact that few people, other than proud new owners, like the look of the resulting homes? Whenever such developments are hinted at it is the same cry we hear: "Blots on the landscape, despoiler of the views, rapists of the rural scene." After all, few would object *to a genuine increase in a* permanently dwelling and wage-earning rural population: one that brings with it families who support shops, local industries, schools, public transport. No, it is the *houses* which are the problem.

Most *of these developments are* designed to suit the strained budgets of young, local couples (all the decent houses having escalated in value beyond their grasp because of the influences of retirement money, weekenders and incomers like me). And when you build down to a price, the design enhancements are the first to go. That is when the cry goes up: "We don't want Brookside on our doorstep."

So let me tell you about a modest housing development in an idyllic site, much gazed upon by locals and tourists, and about which no word of criticism has ever been raised. In fact, a lot of people don't even notice it. The reason is simple: it is a log cabin. It is built out of planks and logs of fir, and to prevent the wicked winter gales removing the roof, that has been clad with growing turf. The roof is as lush as a meadow.

The little house stands in a prominent position on the tip of a Scottish island, seen daily by uncomplaining crowds of *tourists cramming the inter-island ferry* or strolling the promenade of the tourist resort across the water. From a distance, it is invisible; from close up, picturesque. It just nestles there, as innocent and as unoffensive as a flint wall in Norfolk, or a mellow stone cottage in the Cotswolds.

It fits in, and would fit in anywhere, because there is no part of its exterior which is not in harmony with its setting. And it is not because this is a forested island, but because the colours and textures of log cabin, loch and landscape blend. So they would in any rural setting, for the same reason that the browns and greens of waxed jackets dissolve so easily into the *background of the forests and fields.*

Of course, it is easy to fall in love with silly ideas of building log cabins when one is filled with bracing Highland air and malt whisky. But on sober reflection, perhaps the log cabin as a dwelling does need some serious consideration.

Think how timber-built houses have been, and still are, providing sophisticated and enduring housing in the northern hemisphere, where soft wood grows in abundance. In Britain, we have little tradition of timber housing, though we once embraced oak as the ideal wood with which to build the frames to support large and heavy roofs. But now a fashion is emerging for *houses built like barns, but of green,* unseasoned oak; beautiful creations, though hardly the starter homes which rural areas are being pressed to supply. We need simpler log houses.

In case anyone should think that suggesting that hard-up young couples live under a pile of logs is in any way patronising, I might add that the humble log cabin I visited (imported from Finland 15 years ago) feels more like a home than many of the piles of bricks flung up these days in the name of houses, and that I immediately wanted to move in, permanently. It is bliss.

From a practical point of view, a log cabin is cheap to heat (being naturally well insulated), cool in summer, needs no interior or exterior decoration and, if you get fed up with it, you can dismantle it and move it, or have the bonfire of a lifetime.

To spread these wonderful dwellings we would need — as well as enlightened *planning, the rarest commodity of all* — timber to build with. There will be those who blanch at the thought of any more gloomy pine forests spreading dark shadows across the uplands. But accepting that there is no gain without pain, it could be that the environmental damage done by skilfully managed pine forests would be less in the long run than that done by extractions of clay and gravel to feed the brick and concrete industries.

There is also *an opportunity here for* enterprise: the committed would have no difficulty building their own houses, thus reducing the cost of home ownership even further. Or kits might provide a middle way. If you are now thinking that I have gone completely over the top and am advocating a population housed in dog kennels, I would remind you how beloved the postwar prefabs became: you do not have to live grandly to be happy.

But from my glimpse of log-cabin living, it would be a grand life in another way. The peace which a cocoon of wood bestows upon its inhabitants is well known; we drool at the cottage with its exposed wooden beams and swoon at the sight of the half-timbered house. The log cabin, preferably with a roof sprouting *daisies and dandelions, surely represents* the ultimate both in timbered therapy and in supplying a form of rural housing to which the least number of people could possibly object.

Give me three good reasons why not.

Readers' letters are welcome on countryside matters, of all kinds. Address them to: Paul Heiney, Weekend, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. They are published on the first Saturday of the month.

ADRIAN SHERRATT

Ursula Broughton, a retired biologist, and her colleague Brian Wright found this healthy elm at Pebmarsh, in northeast Essex. They believe "genetic resistance and isolation" saved it

Join the great elm hunt

Dutch elm disease did not kill all our elms. Now conservationists want help to find mature survivors – and to plant more. **Gareth Huw Davies** reports

Readers of *The Times* are invited to take part in a nationwide search for a tree that *many of us assumed was no* longer there: the elm. It seems that even the tree-aware among us have for years walked past mature, surviving elms and, like the South Sea islanders who did not "see" Captain Cook's ship because it was beyond *their* experience, simply marked them down as some other species.

However, naturalists and local authority tree officers now know that a small number of elms survived the devastation of Dutch elm disease (one was recently identified in Hampshire next to a public footpath). They suspect that some of the trees may be disease-resistant, and the conservationist's ambition to restock the countryside with this once abundant tree, from cuttings taken off these "super" elms, is not so outrageous.

In a survey carried out this spring, the Conservation Foundation located dozens of mature, healthy elms. Ursula Broughton, a retired biologist, and her colleague Brian Wright found the elm in our photograph near Pebmarsh, in northeast Essex, about two *miles north* of the Colchester to Cambridge Road.

Miss Broughton believes this tree and its neighbour, both elm clones peculiar to Essex and about 70 years old, *may have immunity* to Dutch elm disease. "I think they survived through a combination of things, including genetic resistance and isolation," she says. "And after that first *enormous* wave of deaths, trees that didn't succumb immediately had a better chance of survival."

David Shreeve, the director of the Conservation Foundation, whose elm programme is part funded by Ford, believes there may be many more previously unnoticed elms in the countryside. He asks readers to send details of possible sightings, with OS *grid reference*, any other relevant local information and some leaves for identification by the foundation's consultant, Dr Jayne Armstrong of Glasgow University.

Last week a tree surgeon working for the foundation took the first cuttings, green shoots about 6in long, from elms in East Anglia. They were sent to a tree nursery in Bedfordshire, where they will be nurtured in a mix of bark and perlite.

After a year's growth, the foundation will offer the cuttings to schools, industry and local authorities close to where they were taken so that they can be grown in an environment to which they belong. It will also offer cuttings to individuals, perhaps people who had elms on their property, who would be willing to monitor the growing trees over the 15 to 20 years it will take before they can be presumed safe from infection.

By any reckoning, the loss of the elm from the landscape was an ecological catastrophe. The elm, with its regional diversity of somewhat unkempt profiles, is a famous feature in landscape, history and culture. The English elm, in outline billowing like a thundercloud, was a characteristic tree of southern England, the quintessential subject for the pastoral painter and poets.

BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY

Past splendour: *The Elm Walk*, by William Gryll s Addison

Elm was widely planted in hedgerows, its foliage cut for animal feed and its durable wood was used for water pipes and furniture. Elm litters the gazetteer: there are 17 place names derived from the tree in the *Oxford Dictionary of Place Names.*

Dutch elm disease was the ecological equivalent of the neutron bomb, the property-friendly weapon that was meant to kill people but leave buildings standing. The disease killed 25 million elms of different species, and left the landscape woefully diminished to those who had known it, yet intact to any visitor who had never seen it before.

Dutch elm disease — so called because of research into it by scientists in the Netherlands — is a fungal scourge spread by two types of bark elm beetle. There have been two pandemics this century. The first, between 1920 and 1940, killed up to 40 per cent of the elms in Britain and Europe. The second involved a far more virulent form of the fungus. It is believed to have *originated in Moldova in* about 1940, from where it was introduced to North America. Its entry into Britain in the 1960s was an avoidable tragedy: it was imported in the arboreal version of coals to Newcastle: imported elm.

The disease, first noted around Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, in 1965, is still advancing, albeit at a slower rate, in northern Britain. A strict policy of felling and destroying infected trees has saved the elm in a few enclaves, notably Brighton and Hove in West Sussex.

At first, it seemed that the elms might recover naturally, by growing up again as suckers from the millions of intact roots left after infected trees were felled. However, the disease has a particularly malevolent capability. It did not pass over when all the large elms were killed. Instead, the beetles reappeared to re-infest and invariably kill the suckers when they reached 20ft, between seven and ten years old. This cycle of re-growth and re-infection is likely to continue until the disease dies out *naturally, or a way is found to* eradicate it.

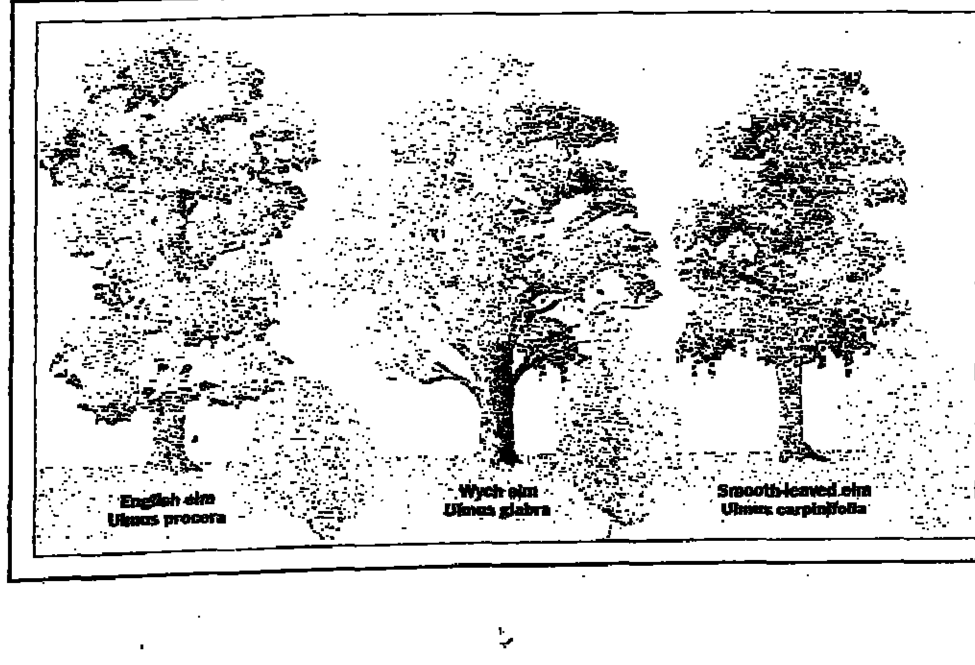
Scientists are researching a promising control mechanism, the so-called d-factor, with a view to its possible *release into the environment.* The d-factor is a naturally occurring virus-like agent with the potential to reduce greatly the fungus's aggressiveness. It may have played a part in the unexpected decline of the disease in the 1940s.

Study of the possible genetic manipulation of the English elm is also well advanced, although any resulting disease-resistant tree is likely to be more suitable for landscaped areas, not the wider countryside. Development of such a tree also brings the danger of the escape of a novel DNA *into the environment.*

One elm — though culturally the wrong elm — is already guaranteed a future *in Britain. The dis*ease-resistant Sapporo Autumn Gold, one of a number of hybrids developed by Professor Eugene Smalley of Wisconsin University, came from an *elm at Hokkaido University in* Japan. Thousands of these have been planted under the "Elm across Europe" programme, launched by the Conservation Foundation in 1979.

Although the tree thrives here, it is a decorative, parkland alien — one arboriculturalist described it as "that Japanese weed" — which could never rise comfortably out of the English hedgerow.

"So we think it is time to move on," Mr Shreeve says. "If we can get a cutting to grow from an elm that has survived in the area, it will be a wonderful thing. However, this is an experiment and we won't know the results for a generation. All of these elms we are finding may be freaks of *nature and the* cuttings *we take* from them may eventually succumb. But it is worth a try."



DO YOU KNOW OF A MATURE ELM?

If you know of a mature elm – at least 190cm circumference at breast height (between 1 and 1.5 metres from the ground) – that appears to have survived Dutch elm disease, send details including grid reference, with a leaf sample to:

The Conservation Foundation,
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Tel 0171 591 3111;
fax 0171 591 3112.

DO YOU HAVE A SUITABLE SITE FOR PLANTING AN ELM?

The foundation is looking for places where cuttings might be planted out. It will also give propagation advice to landowners who have healthy elms on their property and are willing to plant out cuttings they have taken themselves.

Where the curlews call

FEATHER REPORT

PETER BROWN

Curlews in Scotland

AN ENGLISH birdwatcher *wandering through the farm* lanes of lowland Scotland might feel, at first, that he was still in the countryside around London. I was thinking just that last week while I was in some rich farming country west of Edinburgh. All the birds I had been watching a week or two before were there — though a little further on now in their breeding cycle.

Whitethroats were everywhere, singing and scolding in the hedges, and I saw my first fledgling whitethroat of the year — a dumpy, fluffy version of its parents, begging for food with an open beak from one of them as it sat on a a dead twig in a hawthorn. Yellowhammers were also common in the hedges, and I watched a *female strip some bark from a* bush for its second-brood nest.

However, little differences soon began to declare themselves. I came up to a farm where the air was suddenly full of swallows. Others were sitting on telephone wires or the roofs of farm buildings, and I would guess that at least ten pairs were nesting in the barns around. As a rule you do not see such concentrations in the Home Counties now which can only be due, I think, to the steady disappearance of the old barns in the South. I watched one swallow singing on a wire. All the time that it was making its sweet twitterings, its beak remained closed, but at the end of each phrase it produced a harsh, grating *note and then its* beak opened in a snarl.

I went past a hayfield which must have been cut for silage recently, and where a new crop of grass was already *springing up.* Here *there were* numerous swallows flying low, picking up flies. There was also an enormous flock of rooks. Dozens were lined up on top of a fence, and scores *more were foraging among* the new grass. There was a tremendous racket of caws and flurry of black wings when they saw me, but they soon settled down again. A British Trust for Ornithology survey has just revealed that rooks have increased by almost 40 per cent in Britain since 1975 — except, notably, in *southeast England. I was cer*tainly confronted with the prosperity of Scottish rooks in this hayfield in East Lothian.

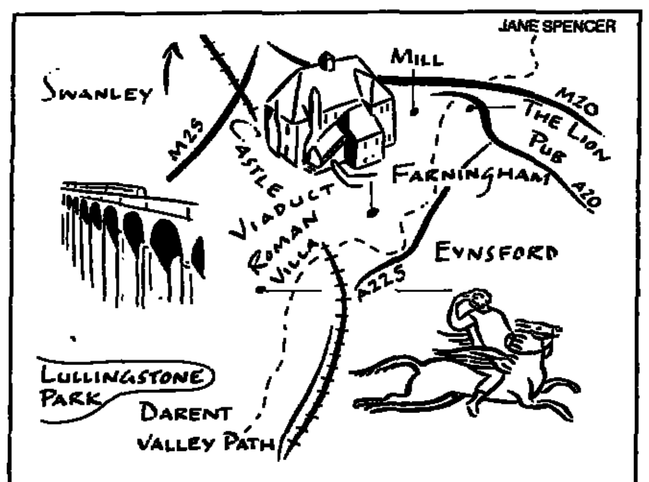
The real Scottish pleasures were still awaiting me. A loud piping call rang out above my head, and two oystercatchers dropped down into the field. Nowadays oystercatchers are breeding a long way from the sea, and these two fine black-and-white waders seemed perfectly at home as they prodded about among the grass with their long red beaks.

I lifted my field glasses to scan the far end of the field, where it rose in a long slope. Two even larger birds were walking there — a pair of curlews. They flew up, making their bell-like "coorlee, coorlee" calls. A moment later they were coming back from the horizon, the male leading, gliding on curved wings and singing his glorious trilling song. I felt I was in Scotland after all.

DERWENT MAY

● **What's about:** *Birders — watch for lapwings moving west. Twitchers — semi-palmated plover, Dawlish Warren, Devon: black-headed bunting, Bressay, Shetland; rose-coloured starling, Land's End, Cornwall. Birdline, 0891 700222 (40p a min cheap rate, 50p at other times).*

JANE SPENCER



ON THE SPOT: FARNINGHAM, KENT

Rural recommendations

The place: The green by the Lion Pub at Farningham, a Kentish village whose high street bridges the Darent, a Thames tributary.

The view: From a picnic blanket on the grass, you can enjoy the architecture of the Georgian pub and children paddling and dipping for minnows. Across the river is a buttercup-rich wild meadow and, beyond, the high street meandering up a gentle hill towards shops and another pub. The well-treed riverbank is a rewarding course for the casual birdwatcher.

The appeal: I taught my daughter to cycle on this gentle sward when she was three years old.

Historic interest: Captain Bligh owned a large house not 100 yards away. And Dickens is said to have stayed in the Lion (not an uncommon claim among pubs in north Kent).

Best time to visit: Any sunny day (in rain, you can take refuge in the Lion).

OS reference: 545670 (Landranger 177)

Also nearby: Ruins of the castle of a Norman grandee who took his name from Eynsford, further along the Darent; the ford in that village, another fine picnic spot with views of the ancient village church and highland cattle grazing; and the Roman villa, castle and nature park at Lullingstone.

DAVID ALTHEER

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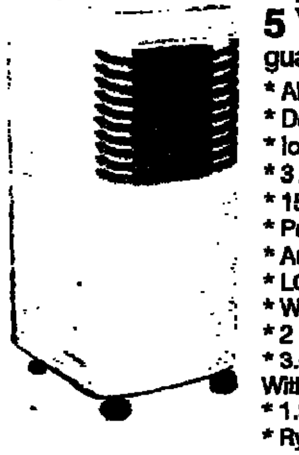

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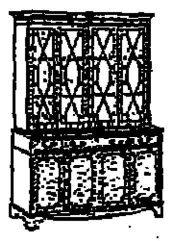

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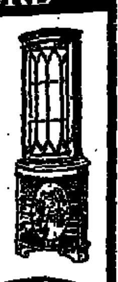

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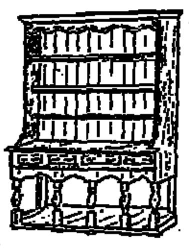

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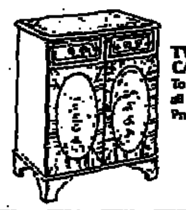

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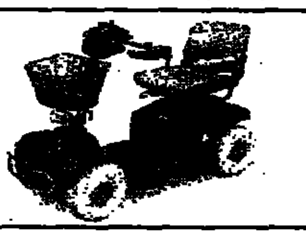

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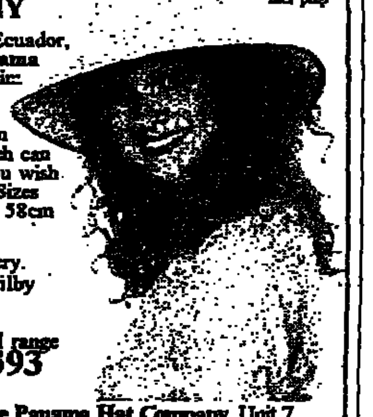

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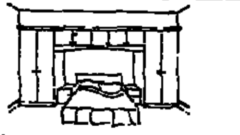

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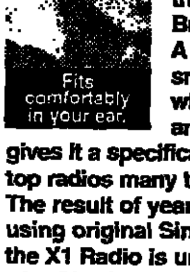

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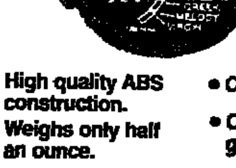

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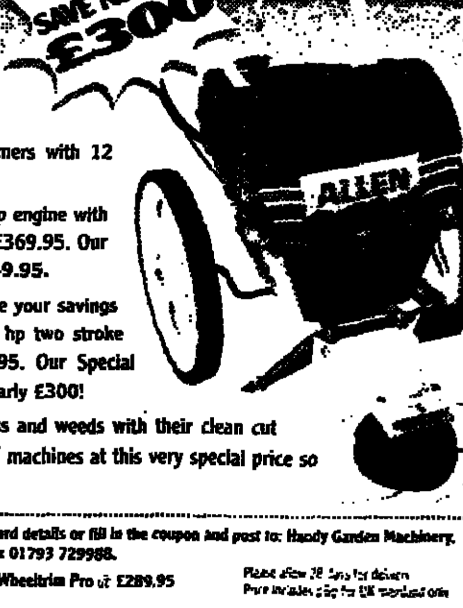

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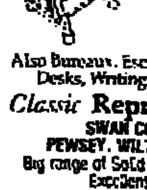

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هكذا من الاصل

Transformed by a high-tech racket

Valerie Grove
enjoys many
happy returns
with Jana Novotna

How to improve your tennis at a stroke: (a) have someone hand you a new racket whose technology is so state-of-the-art that it is not even marketed here yet; (b) choose as your opponent a Wimbledon star player who will send all balls straight back to you.

Equipped last Sunday with both of the above, I felt for a few heady moments like the player I shall never be. The invitation was to spend the afternoon at Windmill Hill Place, the tennis and golf academy in Sussex, hitting a few balls with Jana Novotna from the Czech Republic. She is the world's number three woman player, seeded No 3 for Wimbledon next week.

It was irresistible. Tall, blonde Novotna is one of the most easy-going and likeable of players. Nobody will forget her 1993 Wimbledon final against Steffi Graf, when she snatched defeat from the jaws of victory and then shed tears on the consoling shoulder of the Duchess of Kent.

In that emotionally charged match, Novotna had taken the *second set 6-1. She led 4-1 and 40-30* in the third, when she double-faulted and within 15 minutes lost the set to Graf by 4-6. With our classic British fondness for the underdog we loved her all the more in her distress. She said she felt better for showing her feelings and that is the kind of person she is.

There is no other sport, says Charles Swallow of the Vanderbilt Racquet Club, in which the gulf between a top professional and the average player is as great as in tennis. No club player can expect to take a single point off a Wimbledon seed. So it is a test of character when a top player agrees to confront rank amateurs. Think how boring it would be to play catch with a butter-fingered two-year-old — not for ten minutes but two hours: well, that is what Novotna cheerfully did last Sunday.

There were hundreds of us: the Windmill Hill guests taking tennis courses, the crowd of children who had joined the Cliff Richard tennis trail in Brighton (many quite new to the game) and four of us female hacks just decent enough to get by in our local clubs.

When we arrived Novotna was already out on court, and so was Monica Seles, practising intensively with their coaches. Above, a perfect English summer sky; beyond, the strains of a jazz festival from Herstmonceux Castle across the valley. After a *fortifying spritzer* at the poolside bar, I ventured down the sloping greensward leading to the ten grass courts to be warmed up by the resident coaches, dab hands at making one feel good. The event was Prince-sponsored, so we all had to abandon our shabby old Heads, Wilsons etc and sample the new elongated-head Prince rackets.

Then Pat Perry of Prince handed me another racket: "This is the one Jana will be playing with at Wimbledon this year. It won't be distributed here for a while yet, but you can try it." It was quite different from anything I have ever felt — to hold, to swing and to hit with: light as marshmallow and fantastically sure. It is called a Thunderlite, with a "Sweet Spot Suspension System".

New racket technology is said to have transformed the women's game and this one certainly transformed mine. So by the time my turn came to hit against Novotna — wielding her identical racket — I had no problem getting the ball back, even when returning her serve. But then, she was hitting the ball in my direction, and the serve was a kinder version of the one we shall see next week.

Fact: the better your opponent, the better you play. You unconsciously mimic the movements of the superior player. You get into a positive mental groove. Years ago I watched Gabriela Sabatini playing an exhibition match and afterwards was so intent on imitating her impressively powerful backhand that I gave myself tennis elbow which crippled me for a year.

Novotna was all encouragement and optimism. "Go on, run!" she shouted. "Go for it! Move forward into your forehand, don't retreat! Yeah!" After the individual coaching session we had a game of donkey: dozens of us lining up to hit three shots back and forth to Novotna, then running off. It was exhilarating and fun.

Novotna always comes to Windmill Hill to practise before Eastbourne and Wimbledon. "After Paris, this is heaven," she said, gesturing to the green panorama of the South Downs all around us.

The setting at Windmill Hill Place was indeed perfect. But I would take on Novotna anywhere — Centre Court, perhaps? — as long as I can use her racket again.

PAUL HANNA

KIPPA MATHEWS

Eyes on the ball: Valerie Grove, left, plays a forehand drive to Jana Novotna, right, at Windmill Hill Place; Novotna, above, consoled by the Duchess of Kent after losing Wimbledon in 1993

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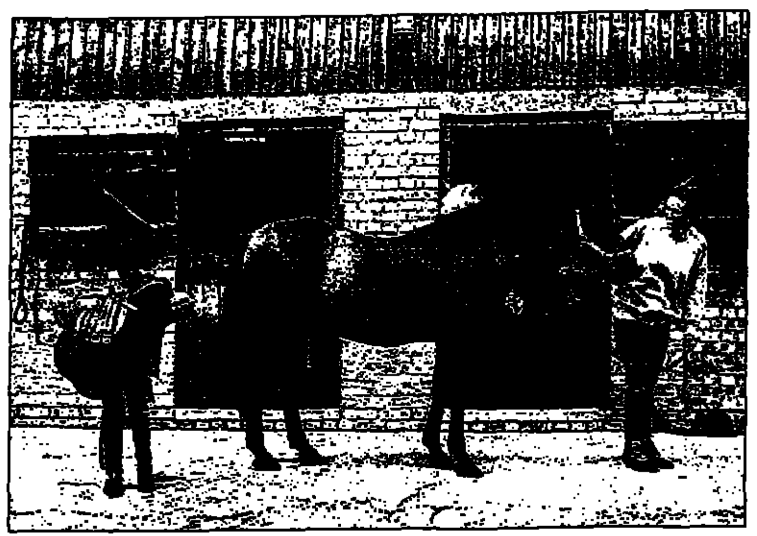
When buying a pony, don't forget the hidden costs in time and upkeep, says **Carolyn Henderson**

The reality of my little pony

SIMON HADLEY/ASSIGNMENTS


Ponies cost £500-£1,500 with another £300-£750 for tack, plus livery

Your daughter is begging you to buy her a pony and you don't know a fetlock from a wither. She — and it usually is a she, as girls catch ponymania more frequently than boys — tells you it won't cost much to keep and that she knows how to look after it.

You don't need much horse sense to work out that things are not that simple and, for most parents the first question will be whether they can afford it. This should really be the second consideration, because before you work out the finances, you have to decide whether your child is ready for the responsibility.

"We often get parents asking if their children should have ponies," says Julian Marczak, executive officer of the Association of British Riding Schools. "Usually, we say no — in our experience, children lose out if their riding is restricted to one pony at an early stage." As a rough guide, he believes that children need two years of at least one lesson a week at an ABRS-approved school before they are ready. If parents have no experience of horses, he puts the minimum age for owning a pony at around ten.

Lynn Russell, a horse dealer, agrees, and adds the warning that parents have got to become involved. "A child can't be solely responsible for an animal. Even the smallest pony is a strong animal with a mind of its own; it's not like looking after a gerbil, there are so many things like shoeing, worming and correct feeding to take into account.

"People decide to buy ponies for the wrong reasons. The worst one is that they or their neighbours have got a field and want a pony to put in it. When people tell me that, I tell them to go away and find out more about what's involved."

Many riding schools run "own a pony" courses where children learn how to look after and handle a pony safely. At Cobham Manor Riding Centre, near Maidstone, Kent, a day course costs £22; Julian Marczak is thinking of running similar days for parents.

Cobham Manor also organises share schemes where families have exclusive use of suitable school ponies for part of the week. Owner Julie Brumer says costs average out at £25 per week including expenses such as feed, shoes and worming. "It means that the pony is looked after properly and gets enough work, and there is always someone for the parents to ask if they don't know what to do," she says.

When the time is right, a first pony can cost anything between £500 and £1,500 and its tack and equipment will add another £300-£750, depending on whether you buy new or second-hand.

A genuinely reliable first pony is actually priceless and many are never advertised: word goes round the local horsey community that they have been outgrown and they find new homes via the grapevine.

Sometimes ponies are offered for loan. In this case, a written contract covering all aspects of the pony's care and use is essential to protect both sides. Relying on informal agreements is a sure way to misunderstandings and spoilt friendships.

If this is your first venture, keep the pony at a good riding school or livery yard so you have emergency back-up. "We have ponies here on working livery, where their use is shared between the owners and the school," Mr Marczak says. "It means they get sufficient exercise under proper supervision and are looked after properly. If you do this, you must have a tight, written agreement."

> 'You've got to be fussy about a first pony as it's the one that builds the foundations of your child's riding'

Purchase prices pale into insignificance alongside running costs. Working livery will be upwards of £25 per week, while if you go it alone, renting grazing and stabling averages £10-£25 per week depending on facilities. Shoeing and worming average £35 and £8 respectively every six weeks.

Ask a specialist horse vet to check over a prospective purchase. Vetting, which is a sort of equine MoT, will cost £100-£150 but could save you the heartbreak of finding that the pony has an eye defect or similar problem that makes it unsafe to ride. It is also sensible to insure against veterinary fees — if the worst happens and the pony needs an operation or expensive diagnostic treatment, the costs could run into thousands and will be the same whether it is a family pony or a top competition horse.

Expert advice on potential purchases can help you to avoid some of the pitfalls. "Don't buy a pony which is too big in the hope that your child will grow into it," Ms Russell says. "It's more likely that she won't be able to ride it comfortably or safely and you'll get problems.

"You've got to be very fussy about a first pony because it's the one that builds the foundations of your child's future riding."

Nicola Harrison and Bear. A child should be at least ten to own a pony if parents have no horse experience

Lesley Harrison knows just how difficult it is to find the ideal first pony, but Bear is the genuine article. Kind-natured and willing, he is now ridden by seven-year-old Nicola — having previously been outgrown by Mrs Harrison's middle daughter, 13-year-old Karen.

Bear was advertised locally, but Mrs Harrison feels that he is an exception: "The best ponies are rarely advertised — they get sold by word of mouth." She says she would always be happier if she could have a pony on loan for a month before buying it, to make sure that it was suitable, but realises that some sellers would not be prepared to do this.

She also says that while a first pony must be quiet and friendly, you have to accept that no pony can be perfect all the time: "You see ponies advertised as 'bombproof' and there's no such thing. It could get stung by a bee, anything could happen. You have to be realistic."

● *Carolyn Henderson is the author of* The Parents' Pony Book *(J.A. Allen, £9.95) and* How To Buy The Right Horse *(Swan Hill Press, £14.95).*

● *The Association of British Riding Schools, Queen's Chambers, 38-40 Queen Street, Penzance, Cornwall TR18 4BH (01736 369440).*

Mad dogs and Englishmen

It's not just humans who need suncare – pets are also at risk

I have had a letter asking how animals manage in the heat of summer. Would Blackie, a nine-year-old cat who has spent the whole of her snoozing life in the sunniest spots she can find, come to any harm?

If Blackie is as her name suggests, she has a built in sunscreen — black fur and skin. Animals with coloured coats and dark skins do not need to worry about sunburn. White cats, or multicoloured cats with white ears, can suffer severe sunburn on the tips of their ears. Suncreams for humans can be applied on the white, hairless areas to keep the sun at bay.

A few cattle and sheep have a peculiar sensitivity to sunlight and develop an acute dermatitis on their white patches. The skin is acutely inflamed and then shrivels and falls away, looking like sub-standard leather. White pigs living outdoors can be badly sunburnt and many pig-farmers provide a wallowing hole for their stock. A large hole filled with water allows pigs to anoint themselves with a natural, barrier cream — mud, glorious mud.

All animals enjoy warmth, so long as there's not too much of it, but overheating is dangerous and can be lethal.

Everyone must have seen a car carrying a rear-window sticker "Dogs die in hot cars". They do. And being cooked alive must be one of the worst deaths imaginable. We lose heat by perspiration but dogs hardly perspire at all. There are only a few sweat glands on their tongues and between the toes. Panting is the way they lose heat.

Radiation is the other way. Hot dogs lie flat out with their tummy exposed so radiant heat can leave the hairless surface. (Conversely if a dog, cat or any other furry animal feels cold they curl into a ball, so the smallest possible surface area is exposed.)

When a dog pants, hot air is puffed out, cold air breathed in. But a dog confined in a hot box — above 92F (33.3C) — breathes in air not much cooler than that breathed out. The body heat generated by being alive cannot be dispersed, so his temperature rises. Crisis level is about 105F (40.5C). Heat stroke occurs, vital organs suffer irreversible damage and the dog will die.

I will never forget doing a post-mortem on a boxer dog, pulled from a hot car. His temperature was (112F) and it was too hot to leave my (gloved) hand inside his chest. Don't leave a dog in a car in the sun for more than five minutes.

If you see someone else's dog collapse after being pulled out of a hot car, cool him down as soon as possible. Get him to a vet, of course, but cold water —via hose pipe or bucket — or ice cubes on his feet and face, plus as much cold air as possible, can make the difference between life and death.

Over-heating and heatstroke affect other animals — hamsters, gerbils and rabbits in metal cages in a sunny window can find themselves in a solar oven with no way out. Close the curtains or move the cage early in the morning before going out.

The water in a goldfish bowl in a south-facing window will get very hot and there is a limited surface area to the water. Hot water and still air means lack of oxygen and in extreme cases this will kill the fish. It's worth putting a proper fish tank — and an air pump — on the goldfish's Christmas present list.

JAMES ALLCOCK

TONY STONE

Pigs living outdoors are at risk of being badly sunburnt

ADOPT ME

HOLLY (left) is a nine-year-old black and white cocker spaniel who is so small she still looks looks like a puppy. She is outgoing and affectionate and would make a good companion for a single person, or a couple without children or other pets as she prefers a quieter environment and likes to be the centre of attention.

She has a pancreatic disorder which means she needs a special diet and medication for the rest of her life. This has not slowed her down and she is active for her age, enjoying games and walks. The charity is willing to help Holly's new owner with the cost of her medication.

Sheba (right) is a good-natured, ten-year-old black crossbreed who is active for her age. She has been a much loved pet but her former owner has become unable to look after her. She would suit a peaceful household without children where she can have lots of fuss.

For both Holly and Sheba, contact Wood Green Animal Shelters, Kings Bush Farm, London Road, Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire (01480 830014).

Q **When we bought Gemma — our cocker spaniel puppy — six weeks ago one eye was weeping. The breeder told us a speck of sawdust bedding had got into her eye and it would clear up in a few days. But it didn't, and now the vet tells us it's an entropion. The eyelid is curling inwards and Gemma will need an operation. He also says it's inherited. Gemma's perfect in every other way and already an important part of the family, but we do feel we've been "sold a pup" and the breeder should pay for the operation. He denies any liability, because he says we accepted she had a bad eye when we bought her. Who's right?**

A VET WRITES

A I wouldn't like a lawyer to operate on my pet, and I'm not sure I'm competent to answer your question, which is essentially a legal one. As you know an entropion is an inturning of an eyelid and as a result the eyelashes rub on the eyeball. And anyone who has ever had an inturned eyelash knows how painful that is. Entropion is an inherited fault in certain breeds and although an operation will re-position the eyelid and solve the problem, no-one should consider breeding from any dog or bitch that has been operated on. Kennel Club rules forbid showing a dog that has had surgery which alters its conformation. I think the least the breeder should do is pay for the operation and you could talk to the Trading Standards Department, or your own solicitor. I hope you won't have to look for Gemma's successor for at least 14 years, but when the time comes consider asking your vet to examine her before you sign a cheque and fall in love with a puppy.

J.A.

● *Write to The Times Vet, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.*

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'A friend's child on a school excursion was caught with his pockets full of frog spawn. David Bellamy's got a lot to answer for'

Swap a guilt trip for a school trip

LIFE AND SOUL

GINNY DOUGARY

Another week, another school, another revelation: the pursuit of the perfect secondary school for our nine-year-old son continues, and we seem to be no closer to making a decision. This one had acres and acres of playing fields and relics of its illustrious history dotted around an incongruously modern building. As we were walking past yet another portrait of a famous old boy, I asked what was clearly a baffling question: do parents play an active role in the school? Our charming and informative guide was nonplussed. "Er, no," he said. "We don't have a PTA or anything of that sort, if that's what you mean."

Well, of course they don't. The whole deal about paying a fortune for your child's education, I suppose, is that you can heave a huge sigh of relief and leave the teachers to get on with it. A good state school, in contrast, it is fair to say, would not be able to flourish without huge support and involvement from the parents. Quite apart from the usual fund-raising activities of summer fêtes and quiz nights, "promises" auctions and sponsored runs, the parents at our boys' school offer their services in all sorts of unflashy but significant ways: running after-school French clubs, special reading and maths groups, or simply accompanying their children's class to the library.

Since my husband gave up full-time work he has become more involved in the school, which means that at least one of us isn't going around feeling twitchy about not pulling our weight. A few terms ago I decided it was high time for me to swap my guilt trip for a school trip, and informed "Miss" that I would like to be teacher's little helper for the day.

I hadn't been on a school bus since I was in a gym slip long, long ago; for all the customary high-spiritedness of my son's classmates, they were a great deal better behaved than we were at my rather posh girls' school.

The naughty ones in the back row used to belt out awful songs by Dave Dee, Dozy, Beaky, Mick and Titch at the tops of our voices, or make terrifying Marty Feldman faces at the divers who had the misfortune to draw up behind us, or brandish our ties like feather boas in a mock striptease, or waggle rude fingers at pedestrians and duck down when they looked up. More *muck de la muck* than *crème de la crème*. The small boys and girls of class 5JM, in comparison, were as meek as the orphans in *Oliver Twist*.

Perhaps they were getting into the spirit of things since we were heading for the Charles Dickens Museum. This expedition, it must be said, was something of a nightmare for the school trip novice. It had the frantic burlesque quality of *It's A Knockout*, as I marched my eight children from room to room, trying to complete our questionnaires in record time — "Look in the cabinet. Can you identify any objects to tell you whether Charles Dickens was a smoker?" — before the next group came in. The bright pupils were impatient to complete the next set of answers, while some of the less able children could barely understand the questions. It made me realise, with an uncomfortable jolt, what an extremely tricky balancing act teaching in a mixed-ability school must be.

My husband is now such an old hand at school trips that they're in danger of becoming his new hobby. They certainly seem to provide him with a rich source of anecdotal material.

There was the David Cronenberg gynaecology-horror experience at St Thomas's old operating theatre, with its rows of historical abortion equipment which, the children were informed, used to kill the mothers as often as the foetuses. He managed not to pass out during the "show", but one of his ashen-faced charges threw up all over the front row.

Then there was the trip to Isabella Plantation in Richmond Park which started on a lovely sunny day and ended in a downpour. The teacher got lost and half the class were caught by the park ranger attempting to steal newts from the stream. A friend's child on an excursion from another school was caught with his pockets full of frog spawn. David Bellamy's got a lot to answer for.

Sometimes there are more parent-volunteers accompanying trips to art galleries than is strictly necessary. My husband went with the older son's class to the National Gallery and came back saying that he would never forget the sight of 30 fidgeting Philistine nine-year-olds stilled and entranced by a lecturer who had the gift to bring Turner's *Rain, Steam and Speed* so vividly to life.

So he was really quite put out when I nabbed a seat on the six-year-old's coach to the Courtauld Institute. It was a wonderful day. The children were drawn into seeing the world through the eyes of Monet and Cezanne by their firm but imaginative guide.

Afterwards, we crossed the Strand in a crocodile, at the most dangerous traffic lights in London, for them to paint their own mini Masters of *The Thames Below Westminster*.

Whoever would have thought that the National Curriculum's worthy-sounding topic for this term — Water — could be so captivating? Now that I've become a school tripper, I guess my husband and I are in competition. Next time, we'll just have to toss a coin.

Children? It's not an issue

Couples who choose to remain childless still feel they have to justify their decision. **Jill Parkin** reports

CHRIS HARRIS

Lysette Butler and her husband Barry. "People who have children lose something else from their relationship. We won't grow apart like couples whose children leave home"

Lysette Butler had something to tell her husband Barry when they decided to get married. "I said, 'Yes I want to marry you, but I definitely don't want children'. And he said, 'I want you, not the children'."

When you're knee-deep in bits of primary-coloured plastic and exhausted, you look at people who have weekend lie-ins and grown-up holidays and think "lucky blighters". But most of us still can't imagine why anyone would choose not to breed.

A couple who decide not to procreate are flying in the face of convention. But for them, the word is childfree, not childless. And they suspect it's the word "free" which really annoys the rest of us.

Lysette, a nurse manager for a gynaecology unit in a large district hospital, says: "The idea that being childfree is somehow selfish makes no sense. I think it's rooted in envy. They realise that in gaining children they have lost something else from their lifestyle and relationship.

"It annoys me when people ask why I bothered to marry. I got married because I loved Barry. We both wanted the commitment of marriage, but I can't remember a time I ever wanted children." Lysette, who is 36, admits that pressure from friends and family has been unsettling.

"They all assume you're going to change your mind. I did sometimes think, 'What if everyone's right and I do change my mind?' I waited for it to happen, but it never did."

When medical reasons made hysterectomy an option two years ago, she was relieved and had no pangs.

Barry, 39, a shop manager, had never thought about children until deciding to get married. "It's a choice and people should be allowed to make it without being deemed abnormal. Instead of asking people why they don't want children, we should ask people to think more about why they do. Lysette and I have great freedom of movement. We can pack up and go any time we're both free. We won't grow apart like some couples whose children have left home."

Lysette and Barry, who live in Romford, Essex, both like children, which is not unusual for people who decide not to have their own. Julia Cole, a Relate counsellor and spokeswoman, says the decision is not often to do with disliking children. "It's usually a lifestyle thing. They have a life they enjoy and feel that children would change it too much. It's actually quite a brave decision, because people are often pressured by family and friends to fit the status quo.

"We tend to think: 'So what is that relationship about?' Childfree couples demand that we see their relationship as not about making a family but about companionship. That is enough." Surprisingly for people you would think would be too busy having a good time, the childfree have a support group, called the British Organisation of Non-Parents (BON). One of its aims is to "challenge the social tendency to glorify and romanticise parenthood".

'Telling friends was like saying, Hey I'm a weirdo'

The group says bringing up children should be recognised as "exhausting, time-consuming, difficult and expensive" and that too many people drift into parenthood.

It almost happened to Alison Ingram and David Rhodes, who live in Barwick, near Leeds. When they married they linked their surnames with a hyphen so that any children would carry both names. Yet only a few years later the Ingram-Rhodes told family and friends they had decided not to have children.

"It was a bit like saying: 'Hey! I'm a weirdo'," David says. "Like most people, we assumed we just would, one day. It was only when I'd been for a drink with a friend whose marriage was in trouble, and who felt she should never have had a child [then two years old], that we thought seriously about the alternative."

Alison, who is a wildlife artist, had been an animal-loving little girl, a tomboy who didn't want dolls and didn't play mummy and baby games. "We discussed it for about a year before making the decision," Alison says. "We were very happy together and didn't need to have children. It would change our relationship dramatically. I like children in small doses but I wouldn't want to live with them. I wouldn't have the patience. And I couldn't paint and handle a baby at the same time. Of course I think about being old and maybe lonely, but that's the wrong reason for having children."

The couple have two dogs, two cats and two guinea pigs, but Alison insists they are not child substitutes. By the year 2000, 20 per cent of women are predicted not to have children. If Alison's wrong, pet figures are set to soar.

David, 33, a sales manager in a technology training business, gets that sinking feeling every time another friend tells him of an imminent baby. "I think 'Oh, god, I've lost another one'. The friendship changes. They can't wait for you to have babies so you can all sit down together and talk about them. People don't like non-conformity of any kind. It makes them nervous.

"Like most men, I was reluctant to give up my job to have children, but perhaps unlike most men saw absolutely no reason why I should expect my wife to do so." David, who quotes the old joke about liking children but not being able to eat a whole one, is scathing about people who delegate their children to nannies and boarding schools.

"What's the point of having children if you have no intention of spending time with them?" he says. "I would say this was lazy parenting. If you can't make the whole commitment, then don't play with half measures. Not when children are involved. It just isn't fair."

Root Cartwright, who runs BON, had a vasectomy at the age of 33, four years before he met his partner, a doctor. He's now 47 and she's 45. "I didn't want children and I laid my cards on the table straight away," says Root, whose nickname goes back to schooldays and has nothing to do with the fact that he's a gardener.

"Many people find that difficult. They've been married eight or ten years and then they find one of them doesn't want children. I want to say to them: 'For heaven's sake. Why haven't you discussed it? Do you just talk about football and shopping all day?' But they're victims of the assumption that everyone wants to have children."

- *The British Organisation of Non-Parents, BON BM Box 5866, London WC1N 3XX (01923 856177).*

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Ruth Gledhill finds an enthusiastic congregation in a once-crumbling London church which is being restored

Hope and glory in Spitalfields

THE CHURCH was partly obscured by scaffolding and chaos descended briefly as a battered car burst into flames opposite the portico. The multi-racial and youthful congregation, towing children in their wake, straggled into morning communion past the flashing blue lights and small crowd of onlookers. A few yards away, Spitalfields Sunday morning market bustled on as usual, oblivious to church and fire.

Had this beautiful building been in the West End of London, the world would by now have been aware of its plight. Nicholas Hawksmoor's baroque masterpiece would have long-since been restored, and would be paraded by our embassies across the world as an example of English history and conservation at its finest.

But instead, for decades, Christ Church has languished, neglected, in the heart of the Muslim East End of London, visibly crumbling yet somehow managing to stand erect, shunned by the community around it. The parish went elsewhere to worship, while the crypt was opened as a rehabilitation centre for homeless alcoholics.

Now, thanks to the tireless efforts of its Friends organisation, the resurrection of Christ Church is in sight. The parish has returned to the church, made safe by the Friends with new roof and ceiling. More money is needed but a £500,000 grant from English Heritage, a £2.44 million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, plus other donations, means the church will in a few years be returned to its original grandeur. In the meantime, we sat on plastic chairs on rush matting.

We were visiting during the annual Spitalfields Festival, which continues until June 25 with lunchtime and evening concerts, including African dance. Our service was less exotic — Rite A Holy Communion from the 1980 *Alternative Service Book*. But the charismatic evangelical leanings of the rector and his congregation, with raised hands, occasional whisperings and spontaneous prayers added colour.

The rector welcomed us. "For the past ten years we have been camping in this building, almost as if we were the children of Israel going through the wilderness." We had the story of Mary and Martha from Luke 10, the one where Martha gets scolded for doing the housework. The service took 90 minutes but seemed to be over in seconds. We returned home and, after some debate, I succeeded in doing no housework for more than 24 hours.

- *Christ Church Spitalfields, Commercial St, London E1 6LY (0171-247 7202)*

ANDRE CAMARA

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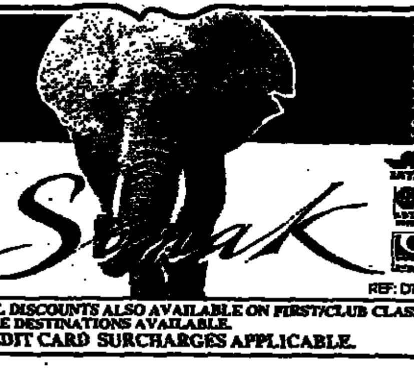

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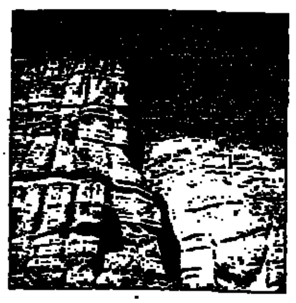

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America: A three-page special report starts in southern Louisiana, where **Joe Roberts** meets the Cajuns

A feast of bands and pork nibbles

LES RIESS

A fiddler at the Acadien festival playing Zydeco, the Creole counterpart to Cajun music. The music festival in Lafayette, Louisiana, attracts 100,000 visitors every year

In southern Louisiana there is no *firm line* between land and sea. The Gulf of Mexico seeps into the coastal marsh and swells into saltwater bayous. The wettest region is the Atchafalaya Basin, the Cajun heartland in the southwestern part of the state, where moss-festooned bald cypresses stand in gloomy swamps, gigantic alligators lurk beneath the purple water hyacinth and the bayous are banked with high levées to protect against floods. Beyond the Atchafalaya the prairies start. The principal Cajun city is Lafayette.

Cajuns are descended from the French settlers of 17th-century Nova Scotia, a colony they named Acadia, from *akade*, the Miemac Inidan word for "plenty". Acadia was ceded to Britain in the Treaty of Utrecht of 1713. The inhabitants were asked to swear allegiance to Queen Anne and to renounce Catholicism. They refused. Forty years of tension led to *Le Grand Dérangement* of 1755 when the Acadians were driven off their land and into exile.

Some went back to France, some to the French Caribbean islands, and some arrived in the French colony of Louisiana just as it was handed over to Spain in 1766. The Spanish government, keen to settle the western frontier of its new colony, granted the Acadians the uninhabited land around the Atchafalaya, where they learnt to harvest the natural bounty of the swamps and marshes. They grew rice and raised cattle on the prairies.

For generations they shied away from larger political affairs, enjoying a life of relative isolation. While the rest of America became homogenised, the Cajuns stood aloofly back, clinging to the French language and their own way of doing things.

The discovery of oil in southwest Louisiana brought the outside world crashing in. In 1916 a federal education policy forbade the speaking of French in school playgrounds. "Cajun" became a slur, denoting a backward peasant out of step with the progressive age. Acadian culture was systematically neglected in the hope that it would disappear.

In the 1960s things began to change. The surge of interest in regional American music that brought blues and bluegrass to international attention benefited Cajun music as well and musicians such as Dewey Balfa performed at the Newport Folk Festival to critical and popular acclaim.

Down on the bayous, people realised their heritage was worth preserving. In 1968 the state of Louisiana created Codofil, the Council for the Development of French in Louisiana. The council drew attention to another Francophone minority in the same area — the Creoles, who were sometimes incorrectly called "black Cajuns".

Creole is a word with several contradictory meanings. Originally it referred to a French person raised in the *New World. Later it came to* mean "of mixed racial descent". In southwestern Louisiana, the descendants of *gens du couleur libre* (of varying degrees of African ancestry) call themselves Creoles. They arrived later than the Cajuns throughout the 19th century and lived peacefully beside their white neighbours. Geographical proximity forged cultural similarities, particularly in food and music. The Creole counterpart to Cajun music is called Zydeco. Today, Cajun and Zydeco music sells all over the world; English country pubs put Cajun dishes on their menus.

All this outside interest has given the people, formerly so reserved and withdrawn, a *taste for self-promotion. It is* almost impossible to visit southwestern Louisiana without coming across a festival of some kind. Lafayette seems to have one every weekend. The biggest, Festivals Acadiens, attracts 100,000 visitors each September and celebrates music, food and crafts. Hearing that it was not only the biggest but the best, I drove to Lafayette from New Orleans. Girard Park was already crowded by 11 o'clock. There were *lots of families and old* people. Everyone wore hats, gimmy-caps, stetsons or straw sombreros, a few wore soft high-crowned derbies decorated with pheasant feathers.

The Magnolia Sisters are an *acoustic trio* who sing traditional songs, bleating the lyrics like harmonious goats; old-fashioned waltzes swung dreamily through the heat and stately dancers glided through clouds of dust. File were the next band, playing a faster, more contemporary music, driven by an electric piano. The dancers went crazy. Cajuns call a dance a *fais-do-do*, which translates roughly as "bop till you drop", and many *looked about to, twirling* around in a manic, countrified jitterbug.

Countless other bands performed. A gentle rain fell, turning the dust into mud, but the dancing continued. I bought an alligator sausage sandwich (with more texture than taste) and sheltered under an oak tree.

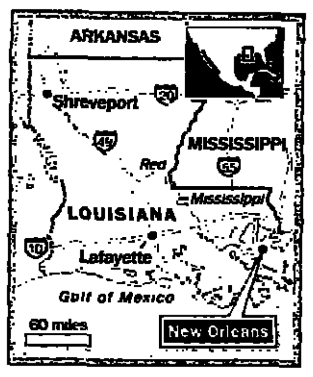
There I met D.L. Menard ("the Cajun Hank Williams") who, as well as recording some big hits, makes rocking-chairs, or did until a recent fire destroyed his workshop. On stage he has enormous charisma, teasing elegant jazzy runs from his guitar and singing about back doors and honky-tonks in a nasal, rueful voice. A storm broke and a rainbow *appeared and mad, happy* people kept spining around in the mud.

Later I was discussing the festival with a woman who insisted that real Cajun culture is seldom seen by tourists, just as celebrated Cajun dishes like Jambalaya and Crawfish Etouffee represent restaurant cooking more than home cooking. She assured me that a largely unknown aspect of Cajun food still exists and, to prove her point, directed me to the Best Stop Meat Market, in the village of Scott, about three miles out of town, which turned out to be a popular charcuterie offering some unusual local delicacies. There were various *boudin* sausages, most containing rice *and pork but sometimes offal* instead of meat (one was a Cajun black pudding); two equivalents of haggis — *paunce*, a stuffed calf's stomach, and *chaudin*, a pig's. There was also *tasso*, a highly smoked jerky of pork or turkey, used as a seasoning; *gratons*, which were pork scratchings, and *fromage de tête*, which was brawn. "Tourists don't get to eat this stuff," she told me, "it's not glamorous."

We bought some *boudin*, some *gratons* and some beer and drove on to Cankton, where there was supposed to be a cockfight, a sport still legal in that part of Louisiana. I was slightly hesitant but she kept insisting that I see some *real Cajun culture.*

As it happened, the cockfight was the following evening, so instead we visited a breeder who showed me his birds, spectacular heraldic-looking creatures, all from English bloodlines. The razor-sharp spurs that he attaches to their feet, he explained, bring a swifter conclusion; without them a fight might drag on for hours. This was not actually a humane consideration "The more fights, the more wagers. Cajuns like to bet."

He also kept a pair of catahoulas, the local breed of gundog, like bloodhounds but with brindled coats, webbed feet and blue eyes. I gave them the rest of the *gratons.*



FACT FILE

- **The author flew with Delta (0800 414767), which has three daily flights from Gatwick to New Orleans, via Atlanta or Cincinatti. Fares start at £620.**
- **For further information: Louisiana is represented in the UK by Travel & Tourism Marketing (0181-760 0377).**
- **Accommodation: The author stayed at Bois des Chenes, 338 North Sterling Street, New Orleans (001 318 233 7816), a 19th-century house furnished with Acadian antiques. Double room with breakfast from $95 (about £65) a night. Owners Coerte and Marjorie Voorhies are very knowledgeable about the area and run boat swamp tours in the Atchafalaya.**
- **Tour operators: Premier Holidays (01787 884031) offers a week in New Orleans, including flights, accommodation and car hire from £728 per person, *based on two travelling.* British Airways Holidays (01293 723121) also has *packages to Louisiana.***
- **Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Old Glory*, by Jonathan Raban (Picador £6.99). *A Confederacy of Dunces*, by John Kennedy Toole (Penguin, £6.99). *Pelican Guide to Louisiana*, by Mary Ann Sternberg (Penguin, £6.99).**

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America: In Florida, a mix of Nasa and nature is competing with Disney for a share of the tourists ...

Space invaders welcome

An airboat does not seem a terribly subtle nature-spotting device. The clatter of the fan contraption which powers these mini-hovercraft is so overpowering it is a wonder there is any wildlife waiting to be seen once you have airboated towards it.

But this is Florida's Space Coast, named not after its roomy nature reserves but in honour of the only site in the world to launch rockets to the moon. Its fauna has become used to a few loud bangs.

The airboats, which zip niftily over the reedy waters of the St Johns River, are every bit as exhilarating as the white-knuckle rides of the state's celebrated theme parks, 40 miles away in Orlando. Only out here, in nature's playground, there is the added attraction of prehistoric monsters in your path.

Eventually, when you have reached a likely location, the engine is cut and you can take your earphones off. The man with tattoos and aviator sunglasses who brought you here turns out to be an engaging expert on the area's 310 species of birds, from bald eagles to bridled terns, black rails and yellow-breasted chats. He hands around binoculars and promises you "gator bites".

It does not take long for a distant ripple to signal the return of aquatic life. As your first 6ft alligator swims menacingly past, a seat on an airboat platform suddenly begins to feel a little too close to nature. Thankfully the "gator bites" turn out to be lunch.

Back at the Lone Cabbage Fish Camp, these brown and chewy chunks of alligator tail have been prepared in the same way as the other local specialities, frogs' legs and cat fish: straight out of the river and into crusty batter via the deep-fat fryer.

The Space Coast's mix of Nasa and nature attractions, which include giant turtles nesting from May to August, now compete for a share of the Walt Disney World droves as an alternative base to Orlando, the world's biggest tourist draw. It is just 45 minutes' drive from here to the Magic Kingdom, Epcot and MGM.

Cocoa Beach, the Coast's main town, has restaurants from which to see space shuttle launches, as well as Ron Jon's, a surfers' paradise store with everything from sex wax (it makes your board go faster) to T-shirts and cheap Levis.

There are several seafront hotels and miles of uncrowded sandy beaches, where brown pelicans swoop on to the sea near swimmers. Some visitors may find the pace of life a little slow, however, and the dreary bands which inhabit the hotel bars are best avoided.

The Nasa complex is sited on a huge nature reserve at Cape Kennedy (formerly Cape Canaveral). Here, the Kennedy Space Centre has also taken steps to tempt tourists, installing, lock, stock and console, the Mission Control centre (900 miles away in Texas) where Houston's finest sweated to put men on the moon.

The Apollo/Saturn V Centre brings all the elements of the American lunar programme together. Its centrepiece is a hangar containing one of the superstars of the superpower space race — a 363ft Saturn V rocket. The white giant was saved by the cancellation of the Apollo project after 17 of the 20 planned missions.

The firing room next door recreates the Mission Control experience at the launch of *Apollo 8*, the first US-manned space mission. As the countdown ends, the room shakes while giant screens carry footage of the launch.

Although this is the nearest many people may come to a blast-off, there is more to the Nasa centre than nostalgia. As you are constantly reminded, this is "a working space port" which has been given a renewed significance by signs of life in a Mars meteorite.

Nasa's bus tour stops for a view of the two launch pads used by space shuttles as well as the huge Vehicle Assembly Building, which houses the five-strong shuttle fleet.

By now, even the most enthusiastic may be feeling a little spaced out, so save for another day the Astronaut Hall of Fame, with its meticulous displays of obscure rocket prototypes and astronauts' school reports.

Next door, junior Buzz Aldrins have an even greater opportunity to indulge the space bug and prove they have The Right Stuff. Space Camp is a residential complex with futuristic cylindrical dormitories where youngsters aged from eight to 13 (three-quarters are usually boys) can go through astronaut training for a week. This involves learning the serious physics of weightlessness and survival in space, as well as the challenge of landing a shuttle simulator.

Other attractions offered by the Space Coast manage to combine local charm and tackiness in equal measure.

The Jungle Adventures animal park entices motorists off Highway 50 with the gaping concrete jaws of Swampy the Giant (which, at 100ft long, must be "the largest constructed alligator in the world").

Visitors are treated to a hand-to-mouth alligator feeding session by one of the fearless park attendants. The teased monsters snap their jaws at morsels of food, and there is even a chance to pose for photographs with an infant alligator whose jaws have been taped together. The gift shop offers mementoes of the day ranging from lacquered alligator feet to plinth-mounted baby reptiles dressed in blonde wigs and pearls.

Experience suggests that another present not to buy in Florida is astronaut food. It is tempting to buy a silver bag of freeze-dried fast food with a picture of Neil Armstrong on the front, but friends will not thank you on your return for the unpalatable pizza powder which lurks within.

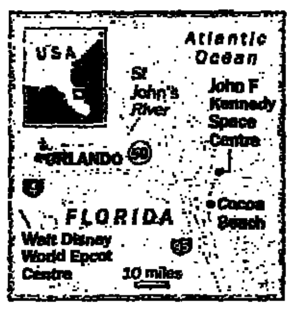
The most rewarding souvenir of the Space Coast must surely be the spectacular sight of a shuttle launch. There can be no guarantee that a trip to Florida will include a blast-off, even if one is scheduled, because they are notoriously prone to delay. (A recent launch of the space shuttle *Atlantis* departed seven weeks late because of technical problems and two hurricanes.) However, it is possible to book launch-day seats in advance at the space centre.

Bear in mind, too, that the Kennedy Space Centre is open on landing days and a southerly approach means the shuttle swoops over the top of the visitor centre seconds before touchdown.

DAVID CHARTER

FACT FILE

- This year's Space Shuttle timetable is: *Columbia*, launch July 1 at 2.37pm, land July 17: *Discovery*, launch August 7 at 10.39 am, land August 18 at 7.27am; *Atlantis*, launch September 18 at 1.39am, land September 27: *Columbia*, launch November 19 at 2.49pm, land December 5. (Satellite rocket launches on July 12 and 22.)
- The author travelled with the Space Coast Office of Tourism and the Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach Resort.
- Nasa runs a recorded message service of launch information on Shuttle and unmanned satellite launches (001 407 867 4636.) Details on how to obtain passes to watch Kennedy Space Center launches (001 407 867 6000).



- Tour operators: Transolar (0151-630 3737) sells week-long packages from £350 per person, including flights, accommodation in Cocoa Beach, car hire and a launch pass. Other operators serving the Space Coast include Jetsave (01342 312033) and Virgin Holidays (01293 617181).
- Accommodation: The Holiday Inn Cocoa Beach Resort (001 407 783 2271) costs from £71 for a double.
- Entrance to the Kennedy Space Center Visitor Center (001 407 452 2121) is free. The bus tour costs £5.
- The Astronaut Hall of Fame (001 407 269 6100) costs £6.50 for adults and £4 for children.
- Airboat rides are available from the Lone Cabbage Fish Camp (001 407 632 4199) at £8 per person per half-hour.
- *Space Camp* (001 407 269 6101) costs £450 for a week.

PAUL KIZZLE/AP

The space shuttle *Atlantis* taking off. It was delayed for seven weeks by hurricanes

FREE IN LAS VEGAS

OUTSIDE the Treasure Island casino in Las Vegas, the scene is a harbour, circa 1790. The two ships are a buccaneers' galleon, skull-and-crossboned, and a British man-of-war, *HMS Britannia*. The cannon on the British vessel open fire. Direct hit. The pirates lose a crow's-nest: *Britannia* is hit midships. Fires rage through both vessels, masts tumble, smoke billows. The British admiral salutes as the bow slides under the water.

Fifteen seconds later, admiral and ship rise from the watery grave. Shattered masts, torn sails, magically snap back into position. The fires go out. A chorus of *Rule Britannia* from hidden loudspeakers. Then I, and a vast army of incredulous spectators packing the pavement outside the casino, drift off to watch a volcano erupt. Outside the Mirage casino, fronted by a waterfall, the volcano smokes and rumbles, the earth trembles. An explosion hurts the ears. A hiss suggests that molten lava has reached the waterfall. End of eruption.

Off to Circus Circus, a massive, dome-roofed structure. No animals, no clowns, but high-wire artistes defy death in time-honoured style. And it's still all free.

The Fremont Experience, just off Main Street, has to be the world's longest shopping arcade. Its curved roof, studded with tiny glass cubes, becomes a screen hundreds of yards long. A blast of trumpets and cowboys blaze away; covered wagons rumble; dancing girls do the can-can; gangsters open up with submachine guns. Still no charge.

Caesar's Palace sports fluted columns, fountains, ornamental gardens and statues of Roman bigwigs. Without spending a single denarius, I sit and watch the "stone" effigies of Bacchus and the lesser gods jerk into life and speak.

A final freewheeling note: Las Vegas casino waitresses will deliver you a free drink if you are patently gambling. Give them a tip. If you don't, they have been known to tip drinks over such customers.

PETER DAVALLE

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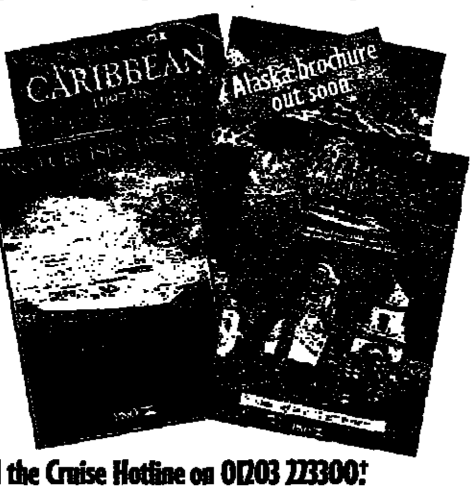

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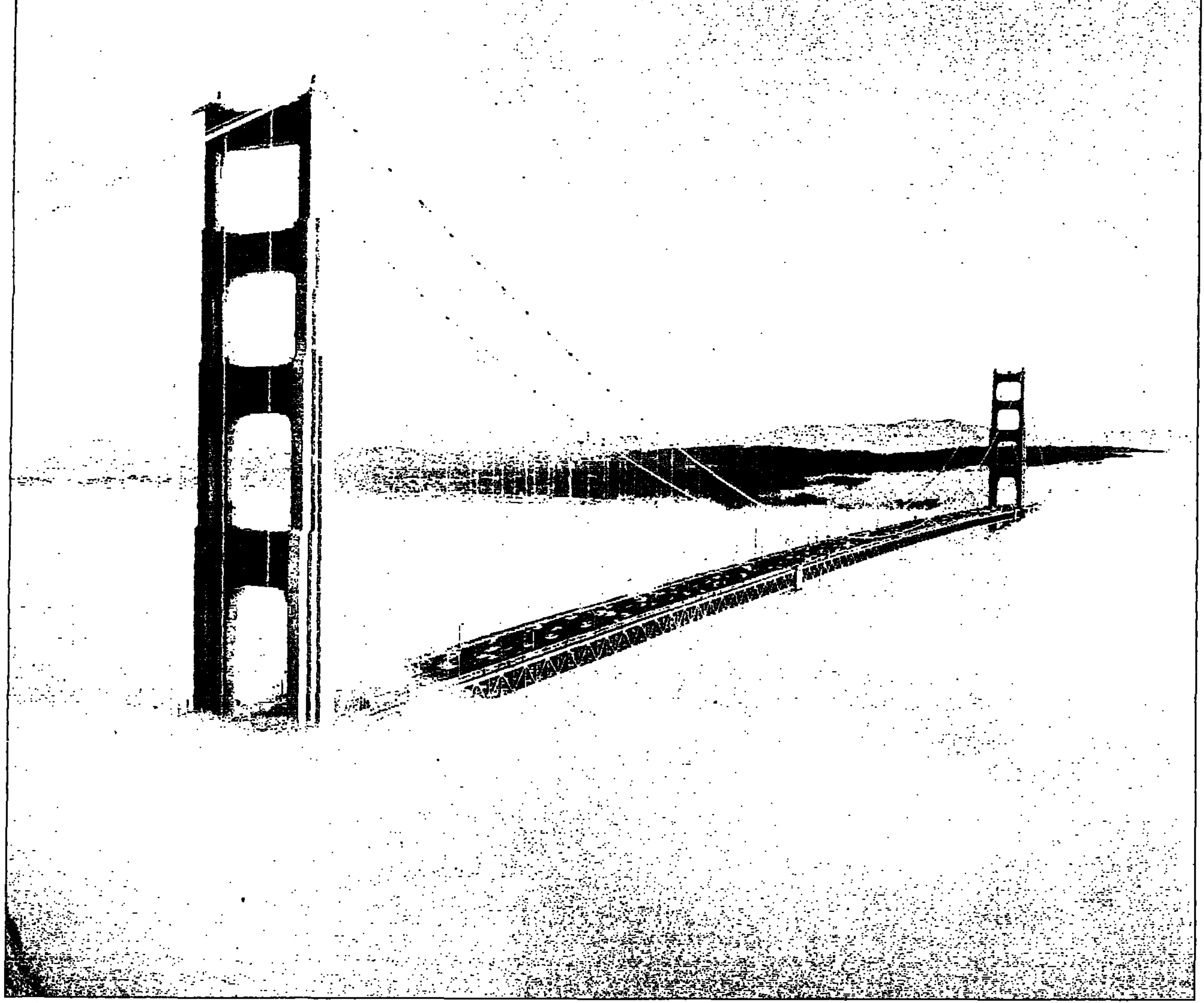
مكتبة الاهرام

هذا من الأصل

. . . while San Francisco still captures visitors' hearts and Washington offers a splendid long weekend



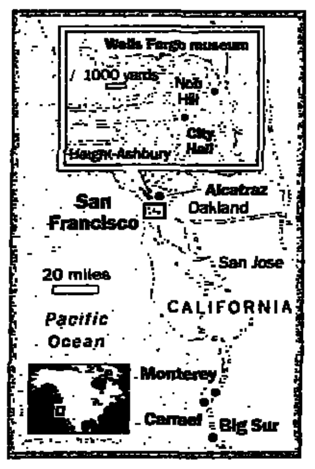
The Golden Gate emerging from early morning fog. Fog is considered such an attraction in San Francisco that the tourist office publishes a guide to the best fog-viewing spots

Golden Gate, golden moments

For a moment Harry Denton's looming, ursine frame blotted out the light. What I thought was a gravel truck tipping its load was Harry's voice. "Sorry," he rasped, gripping my shoulder, "we screwed up."

Actually, it was not a bad screw-up, just a misunderstanding at the nightclub door about our invitations; but nowhere in the world are bouncers hired for their geniality, and Harry's dark-chinned doormen were tightening their Clint Eastwood lips when, phew, Harry came through like the cavalry. He rounded up our party of out-on-the-town limeys, led us to a good table, called one of his prettiest waitresses to take our drinks order and sent along a chocolate mousse by way of welcome.

Now I am no frequenter of nightclubs, but Harry Denton's Starlight Room was on the itinerary after dinner and we did our duty by it. Only shouting and Harry's gravel could penetrate the dance music, but we were not there to talk and my lady companions sweetly turned down dance offers from bow-tied barracudas. It was enjoyment enough to observe the clientele, the guys, dolls, broads, dames, babes, bimbos, good-time girls, narcissists and regular San Franciscans having their Saturday night out, to see tuxedos worn with trainers, to watch skin-tight gold lamé tops carving through the crowd like coal-cutters. As with chocolate mousse, you can have too much of a good thing and after half an hour we tore ourselves away from Harry's and went for conversation in a couple of agreeably informal bars. Past midnight, from my hotel room on the 46th floor, I absorbed the spectacle of San Francisco, a cloak of sequins under the stars stretching towards the satiny bay and the hills beyond. Breakfasting at the same window, I watched the Golden Gate Bridge emerging from feathery boas of fog, the buildings glowing as the sun rose. San Francisco, a different sort of America, always catches you in its net of charm.



Our trip had started south of the city on the Monterey peninsula. As soon as I could, I headed for one of the wild beaches, drawing in the early morning smell of eucalyptus, pine and sage, and watching the waves crash among rocks sculpted by the wind under the direction of Henry Moore. Legions of artists and photographers come here to take up the challenges posed by the play of light on sea and rocks, the Californian panoramas of cliffs, dunes and cypresses.

The beach was not far from Carmel, a small, wealthy, satisfied town of boutiques, galleries and gingerbread houses, founded by artists who fled the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. It basks a little in the starlight reflected from its most famous resident and ex-mayor, Clint Eastwood. It is pretty and quiet: the *Carmel Pine Cone* once left its letters page blank, explaining that no one had written to the editor that week. But the *Pine Cone*'s police report, the Sheriff's Leg, chronicles the irritations and realities of small town life beneath the dinky exterior. I culled these examples: "A 95-year-old woman reported two lewd phone calls from an unknown male"; "A 14-year-old female assured deputies there would be no further problems after she and her mother engaged in argument over curfew".

To some extent, the old fishing port of Monterey lives off its John Steinbeck connection, for Steinbeck drew on it for *Cannery Row*, *Tortilla Flat* and *Sweet Thursday*. The principal attraction in town, though, is the brilliant aquarium, one of the best in the world. Naturally, I stroked a ray (like stroking a giant, velvety mushroom) and was mesmerised by the sunfish and sharks, the silvery showers of anchovy and sea-nettle jellyfish with arms as frilly as can-can knickers. I found it hard to leave the replica seashore: no barrier separates you from the sea birds and waders and they do not fly away because, in this protected environment, they have never learnt to fear man.

Steinbeck's cannery row died 50 years ago because foolish fishermen all but wiped out the bay's once-abundant sardines. But small quantities are returning and some fine fat specimens were served at lunch by Ridge Watson III, the enthusiastic winemaker at the Joullian vineyard in Carmel Valley. With the sardines came crab, grilled quail, roast lamb and fruit tarts helped along by six of the vineyard's best wines.

There were also some splendid local mushrooms, for people here are as crazy as Russians about mushroom-hunting. Ridge looked out over his American Dream valley, the gold and orange rows of vineyards climbing the distant blue slopes. "We have reached," he pronounced, "the golden age of wine." Only sybarites need apply.

That evening we enjoyed an epicurean treat on the ocean's edge at the luxurious Highlands Inn, near Carmel. The rooms and town houses are built into the hillside and have views of the craggy Big Sur coast, of waves racing into small bays and notches. Out on the balcony the air had a piney fragrance. Inside there was a spa bath for two, bathside candles, a log fire and CDs playing dreamy, seashore music. A bottle of wine was set on a table. But something was missing in this American romantic idyll. And then it dawned on me what it was: Doris Day.

After two nights here we transferred to the supreme comfort of the Mandarin Oriental Hotel where, if you like, you can sit in your bath, sip champagne and look out over San Francisco. I spent much of my time walking, for San Francisco is a good walking town and its 43 hills provide just the right amount of pain. Being a western buff, I headed for the Wells Fargo museum in Montgomery Street, with its fascinating evocation of the Gold Rush and stagecoach era. I had a good long burrow in second-hand bookshops, wandered in Chinatown, paid my respects to Bohemia in Haight-Ashbury, still a good place for beard viewing, enjoyed the painted houses and the maritime museum, marvelled at the views from Nob Hill and rode the ding-ding cable car, lunched Italian and Mexican and dined Chinese and American; and, of course, hardly scratched the surface of the place. I had reservations about visiting Alcatraz. The old jail is, in its way, a monument to failure. Indeed, it was closed 34 years ago because it created "a sinister and vicious attitude" among prisoners and because it was too expensive.

The best part of Alcatraz was the view of the city and the Golden Gate slowly unveiled by the fog. In one of the world's most enjoyable cities, fog is regarded as an attraction, so much so that the tourist office publishes a guide to the best fog-viewing spots. When the coastguard wanted to do away with the famous old baritone fog horn, public opinion forced them to retain it. Sentiment defeated the accountants; so you can still hear the voice of 'Frisco.

TREVOR FISHLOCK

SAN FRANCISCO FACT FILE

- The author stayed at the Mandarin Oriental and Highlands Inn, Carmel, on a Best of Both Worlds package, valid *until August 31, which costs from £506 for one night at each* and £566 for two nights at each. The price includes deluxe rooms, passes for cable cars and a $50 (£33) voucher for Silks restaurant at the Mandarin and two tickets to the aquarium, an ocean view and a four-course dinner at the Highlands. (Reservations 0800-962667)
- Virgin Atlantic (01293-747747) have daily flights from Heathrow to San Francisco from £596. Virgin Holidays (01293 617181) has one-week flydrive packages including flights to San Francisco from £459 per person.
- *Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260)* recommends: *Four Great Novels*, by Dashiell Hammett (Picador, £10.99). *Golden Gate*, by Vikram Seth (Faber, £6.99). *Time Out San Francisco* (Penguin, £9.99).

Capitol sights and haunting battlefields

It may seem strange, but the best place to start a weekend tour of the Civil War battlefields of Virginia is at the historic Willard Hotel, a few blocks from the White House in Washington DC. The Willard is now a luxury hotel, popular with visiting celebrities and local politicians, but in the last century it played a significant role in the war between the states.

The final attempt to patch up a peace between North and South took place at the Willard in 1861. Lincoln stayed in Parlour No 6 in the weeks before his inauguration, paying $4 a day. It was at the Willard in 1861 that Julia Ward Howe wrote the words of that stirring anthem of the North, the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*. These facts are recorded on bronze plaques outside the hotel, but there is no mention that when General U. S. Grant arrived in Washington to take command of the Union armies in March 1864, the Willard refused to give him a room.

That would not happen today. Nowadays the Willard swarms with the great and the good and is known inside the Washington Beltway as the "Residence of Presidents"; this title is accurate, for I met ex-President George Bush in the lift. Many of the city sights are in easy walking distance and you can fit most of them — from the Capitol to the Vietnam Memorial, plus an evening out in Georgetown — into a day and a half. That done, it is off to the Civil War battlefields, stopping first at the battlefield of Manassas, 20 miles west of the city.

The Americans are good at museums, visitor centres and historic sites, and Manassas — or Bull Run — has all three, plus guided tours around this first battlefield of the Civil War, the place where "Stonewall" Jackson got his nickname. Just across the Maryland line is the battlefield of Antietam and the Inn at Buckeystown, a splendid place to stay filled with Victorian antiques and Civil War battlefield buffs heading for Antietam and Gettysburg.

The battle at Antietam was the bloodiest engagement of the Civil War. Casualties exceeded 20,000 men but although it was, at best, a draw, Lincoln chose to declare it a victory and celebrated the fact by emancipating the slaves. This alone gives Antietam a particular resonance and even today it is a haunting kind of place, set in rolling countryside, seamed with picket fences and virtually unchanged since that long day of violence in September, 1862.

The main features of the battlefield, the tiny Dunker church that served as a hospital, the old trenches and scores of cannon, still stand intact beside the road and it is possible to wander about at will, picking up the events of the battle from illustrated story boards set up in the lanes and fields.

Independent travellers fall into two categories: those who book their accommodation ahead and those who risk it. I belong to the latter, but it can get me into trouble, not least with my wife. We should have stopped at the beautiful and romantic Antietam Overlook Farm, a splendid B&B hotel with wooden walls, polished floors, log fires and brass fittings. Instead, we drove back across the Catoctin Mountains, frantically seeking a room, and were half-way across Virginia before we found somewhere to stay.

South of Washington the battlefields continue, at Fredricksburg and Chancellorsville, where Jackson was killed, and around Spotsylvania Courthouse. These fields of slaughter are pretty places today. You could spend a week driving through beautiful Virginia countryside, stopping overnight at delightful inns. We only had a long weekend but we saw a lot.

An early start from Fredricksburg had us back in Washington by mid-morning ready for more sightseeing before the flight home. The Air and Space Museum, the National Gallery and the new Holocaust Museum alone could take up a full day. I can't wait to go back.

ROBIN NEILLANDS

The Vietnam veterans' memorial in Washington

FACT FILE

- *The author travelled with* British Airways Holidays (01293 723100) which has three-night weekends in Washington DC from £399. Extra nights from £55.
- The Willard Hotel can be booked through Inter-Continental Hotels (0181-847 2277). Double rooms start at £223 *in July*.
- Information on The Inn at Buckeystown, the Antietam Overlook Farm and others *from*: Independent Innkeepers' Association, Box 150, Marshall MI 49068, USA (001 616 789 0393).
- Further information from the Virginia Division of Tourism (0181-651 4743).
- Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Washington DC* (Fodor's, £6.99); *This Hallowed Ground*, by Bruce Catton (Cardinal, £5.99; *Democracy*, by Henry Adams (New American Library, £9.95).

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From Abu Simbel we return by road to Aswan where on the Nile side of the Dam will be waiting the 5-star MS Diamond for the 3-night cruise visiting Kom Ombo, Edfu, and from Esna the Valley of the Kings and Queens at Thebes (Luxor), Karnak and the Temple of Luxor before returning by road to Aswan for the flight to London Gatwick. Please note the itinerary also operates whereby the Nile cruise takes place first followed by the cruise on the lake with the same places being visited but with 3 nights on the lake and 4 nights on the Nile.

MS Eugenie and MS Nubian Sea were recently constructed and have full facilities including sun decks, saloon bar, lounge, restaurant, full air-conditioning and swimming pool. All of the cabins have private facilities.
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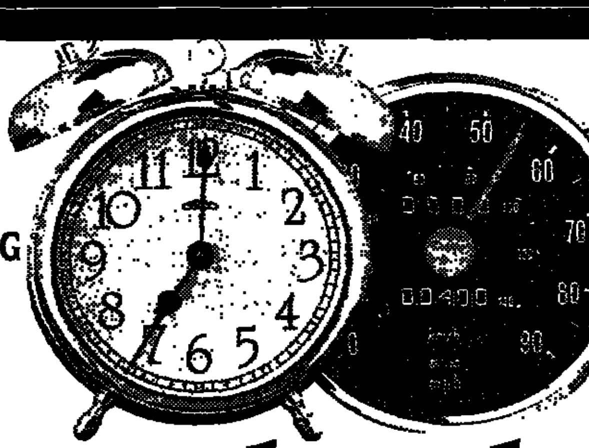

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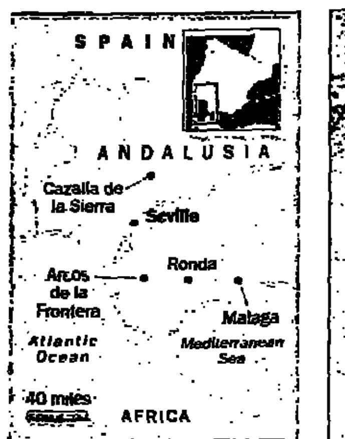
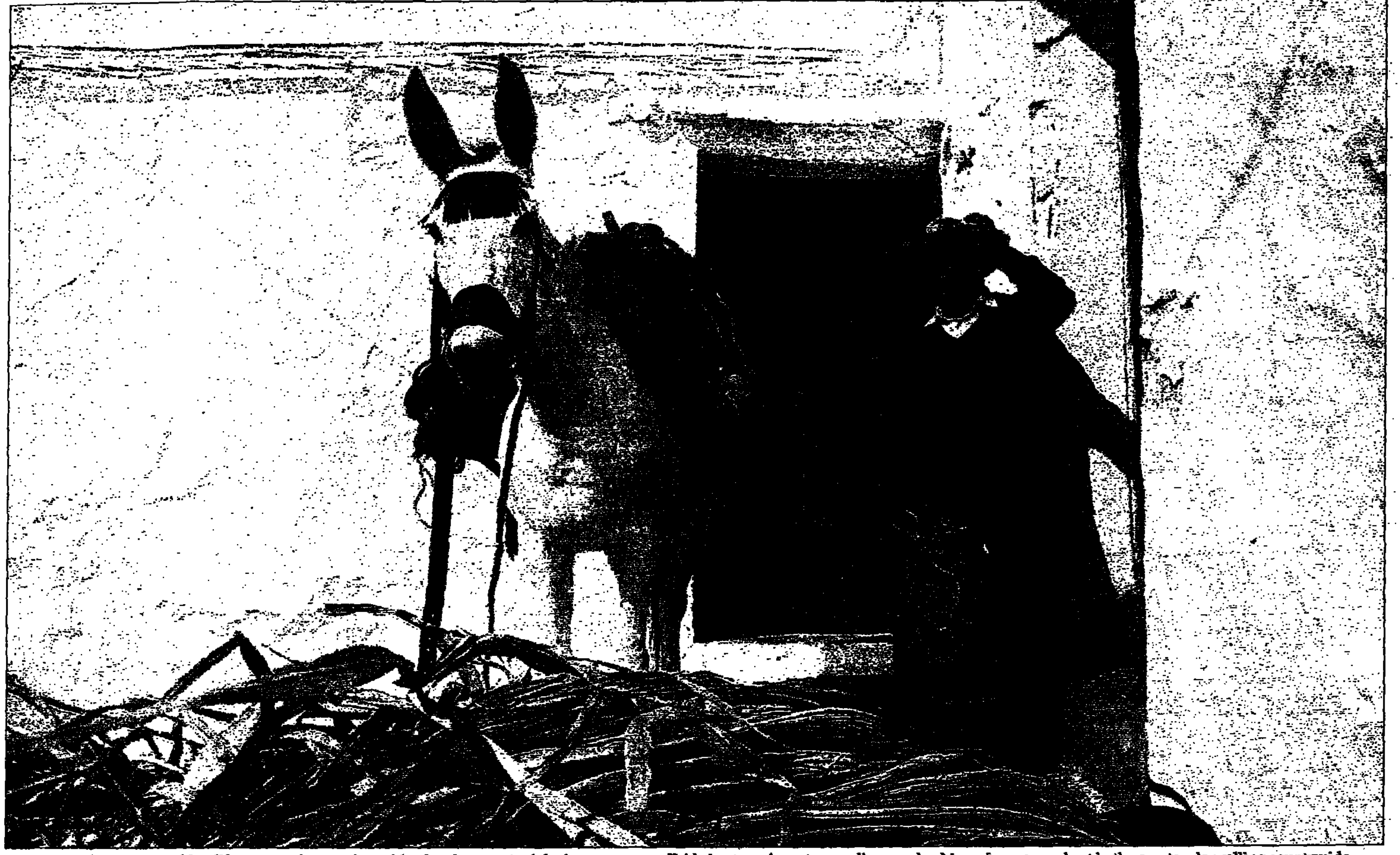


TONY STONE



When they are not taking life easy, eyeing tourists with a beady gaze, Andalusians are most affable hosts and most marvellous cooks. Many farm sugar beet in the spectacular rolling countryside

Doing nothing takes a lot of effort. However, the *residents* of Andalusia are not only old masters at this pastime but invest it with great solemnity. The goal of an Andalusian is to find a comfortable wall, sit on it, fix tourists with a beady gaze, and spend entire afternoons watching the world go by.

The great thing is that nobody is really expected to do anything, so the pace of life is perfect if you are looking to get away from it all. What is more, when they are not sitting on walls, Andalusians are most affable hosts, the most marvellous cooks, and inhabit a spectacular rolling landscape.

Fresh from a long weekend in Madrid, my fiancé, Tom, and I first tasted genuine Andalusian hospitality at Cazalla de la Sierra, the fortified, mountain village, on the second leg of our motoring holiday around Andalusia. When we checked in to the hotel, we noticed the oft-tall blonde who had been in our previous hotel. We discovered that Mara, a fellow of Corpus Christi, Oxford, had booked the same holiday as us. Delighted to recognise each other, we arranged to meet for a *fino* (pale sherry, the local tipple) before dinner.

And what a dinner it was. Prepared and served by the same matronly, smiling women who ran the hotel, we enjoyed field mushrooms cooked deliciously with garlic, oil and herbs, punctuated by mouthfuls of local red wine and crusty bread. When we booked the holiday, with breakfast and dinner included, we fully expected to be disappointed with the hotel food, but in Cazalla we went to bed having dined like royals.

Indeed, foodies would find much to delight them on a tour of Andalusia. The mild, wettish climate spawns an abundance of fresh, tasty produce, and the local tradition of *tapas*, where small portions of dishes are served with drinks, makes it easy to sample a wide range of local cooking. Seafood is a forte: prawns come baked with cinnamon, garlic and olive oil (a recipe I have copied to the delight of my friends).

The province also makes a wonderful destination for walkers, if the climate is right. We visited at Easter, before the sun was too hot. The scenery bore the fresh, green hues of spring, and the flowers were in bloom. Parades were also in full swing — a colourful, loud carnival atmosphere.

The first stop on our tour of Andalusia's *pueblos blancos* (white villages) was a two-night stay in a charming whitewashed hotel in Ronda. This town has a terrible yet absorbing and beautiful history. It is divided by a huge gorge, *El Tajo*, into which, as recounted by Ernest Hemingway in *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, prisoners were thrown into the gorge to their deaths.

The gorge is spanned by a beautiful 18th-century bridge. A short walk from this bridge is Spain's first bull ring. On the other side are the narrow, cobbled streets and intricate architecture of the Moorish quarter.

After our tiring tour, we were treated at the hotel to a sumptuous, juicy dish of cooked venison with rice, served in the beautifully decorated dining room.

Our third destination, hundreds of miles away, was the hilltop village of Arcos de la Frontera, with surely the narrowest streets in the world. It is sited spectacularly, and visible from miles away.

Here, we bumped into Mara many times during our random wanderings — there is no rhyme or reason to the street layout, but that is part of the charm. Each meeting allowed us to compare notes, and finally arrange a time to meet in the restaurant opposite the hotel, where we were booked in for dinner.

Despite the plaudits posted up outside, the food was dreadful, which took some doing in a place overburdened with fresh produce. The garlic soup was inedible. The main course left us seething. The dessert was laughable — a peeled apple with squeezed cream plonked on top. The service was snooty and mean. We left hungry and angry.

It was no bad thing. We took dinner the next night in the Parador, the state-run luxury hotel on the edge of the main plaza. Mara, Tom and I enjoyed the gourmet menu, a succession of fine Andalusian specialities. It allowed us a chance to quiz Mara on her travels as a single woman: she found the driving tiring, but the hotels safe and hospitable. (The tour company Inntravel now uses the Parador for dinner rather than the restaurant opposite the hotel.)

We are determined to visit again. Ronda provided the culture and history, Cazalla the walking, and Arcos the opportunity to wind down. Two days in each place was ideal.

We were glad to have "done" Andalusia after Madrid, too. The capital is a stylish whirlwind of fantastic art galleries, museums and heritage sites, which one feels compelled to race around.

Sadly, the Madrilenos are the same. Though stylish, they are too busy to stop, and disdainful of foreigners. They should take a tip from their southern cousins and learn the friendly art of doing nothing.

ANJANA AHUJA

ANDALUSIA FACT FILE

■ The author travelled with Inntravel (01653 628862). The White Towns of Andalusia fly-drive package, including return flights to Gibraltar, car hire and six nights' half-board, start from £534.

■ The Castellana Inter-Continental, Madrid (0345 581444) has double rooms from £65.

■ The best time to visit is at festival time. Celebrations are held in Easter Week and in early June. Seville holds an enormous, colourful fair every April. Book accommodation well in advance. Late spring is, perhaps, the best time to go; the flora and fauna are at their best, and temperatures are not too high.

■ Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Rough Guide*, Andalusia (£9.99); *South from Granada*, by Gerald Brenan (Penguin, £7.99); *A Rose for Winter*, by Laurie Lee (Penguin, £4.99); *Lazy Days out in Andalucia*, (Cadogan, £5.99).

Floating high in the Pyrenees

Had I closed my eyes, I wouldn't have known the balloon was rising, such a steady ascent it made (no sensation of lifting, more the ground sinking away from the basket), and, because I had arrived the night before in darkness, my first proper look at the Segre valley in the Alt Urgell region of the Catalan Pyrenees was from the air, just after dawn on a bright autumn day.

To the north loomed the high summits of Salória and Monturull, to the south the foothills known as the Sierra del Cadí. The village of Castellciutat, which runs along the spine of a hill, began to stir, shutters opened and dogs stretched. We looked down at the hotel within the ruins of the castle, the little stone church, the modern barracks. From 3,000ft above, the whole valley — the cottages with their tidy vegetable plots, the cows clustered in the corners of fields — resembled a toy farm.

Rising through the thermals to change direction, the balloon drifted over woodland, sometimes swooping low enough for us to pick leaves from the upper branches. A black boar rustled away through the undergrowth. For some time we hovered above a sawmill, before landing (rather haphazardly) on the runway of an aerodrome.

Then we returned to the hotel for breakfast. The balloonist ordered a *truita*, which wasn't a brown trout from the River Segre, but an omelette: the two words are (inexplicably) the same in Catalan. I had *pa amb tomàquet*: coarse white bread, toasted, rubbed on both sides with a cut tomato, then anointed with light, fruity olive oil. On top, in this instance, went a sliver of Jabugo ham, although the balloonist told me that a couple of anchovy fillets would be the more usual garnish.

The Catalans take food seriously. The two hotels my wife and I stayed at, El Castell and Can Boix, had excellent restaurants, both serving the Catalan equivalent of haute cuisine. Theirs is an ancient gastronomy: a Catalan cookery book, the *Libre de Sent Soví*, written in 1324, lists techniques and dishes that are still around today.

Typical Catalan food ranges from straightforward dishes such as *pa am tomàquet* and *mel i mató* (a ricotta-like cheese served with honey) to elaborate ones that may combine unlikely ingredients — salt cod with raisins, rabbit with snails, chicken with shrimps and chocolate.

Smart restaurants unsqueamishly present offal specialities such as tripe, lamb's trotters, veal snout and pig's cheek stew.

Game is very popular: chamois, boar, hare, capercaillie, partridge and quail. There is even a rabbit unique to the Cadí, piebald in colouring, possibly descended from escaped pets.

Several of the vegetables I'd never seen before: what I took to be leeks were huge green onions, and I saw strange, scarlet gourds for sale. I particularly liked the tiny brown olives called *arbequines*, hardly bigger than capers.

Sometimes we came across the mushroom-gatherers with laden baskets, and there were stalls at the roadside with fungi piled on trestles or spilling from wooden crates: the familiar, ceps and morels, beside the more exotic, *moixernons* (St George's Agaric) and *fredolic* (a type of blewit), as well as some rarities, such as the yellow-gilled *ou de reig* ("royal egg" or Caesar's Orange).

The little town of La Seu d'Urgell clusters around its medieval cathedral, a sombre Romanesque structure that resembles a fortress as much as a place of worship. *La Seu* means the diocese or see. Ever since the 13th century, the Bishops of Urgell have been co-rulers of the Principality of Andorra, initially with the French Counts of Foix, then with the French king and now the French president.

The canoeing contests of the 1992 Olympics were held at La Seu d'Urgell. A special park was constructed on the Segre which now draws enthusiasts from across Europe. My wife and I had a go at whitewater-rafting, hurtling down a roaring channel of man-made rapids. As we both thought we had been incredibly brave, it was slightly disappointing to learn later that the water was only 4ft deep.

During our visit, our host introduced us to another highlight of the region: the Cadí-Moixeró reserve, a 150-square mile conservation area with huge forests dotted with juniper bushes and wild rhododendrons — interrupted here and there by meadows which are scarlet with poppies in spring. We passed some attractive villages, their ancient houses of honey-coloured stone, Arsèguel (where there is an accordion museum) and on around several hair-pin bends to Ansovell where the road ends. No vehicles may enter the reserve.

Then we headed back to Pont de Bar for lunch at the wonderful Taverna dels Noguers, which must be everyone's dream of a country restaurant: delicious food in simple surroundings.

To the south of Alt Urgell is the district of Peramola. The landscape is scrubbier, the mountains lower, the pines give way to box shrubs and the hillsides are strewn with wild herbs, lavender, rosemary and thyme. Not far from our hotel was a steep track leading to a chapel on top of a cliff, Nostra Senyora de Castell-Llebre.

I discovered the chapel has a legend rather similar to the Welsh legend of Saint Melangell. Back in the Middle Ages, Trobantse, the baron of Peramola, while out hunting, pursued a hare up into these hills. Eventually, he found his quarry crouching behind a fine alabaster statue of the Virgin.

The statue, on its own in the wilderness, was taken as a sign from God and Trobantse built the chapel on the spot.

The chapel still houses the alabaster statue and there is a little shrine a short distance from it where people leave bunches of flowers and herbs.

Twice a year, on St Mark's Day and at Easter, a priest on horseback leads a procession from Peramola to Castell-Llebre to celebrate Mass.

JOE ROBERTS

CATALONIA FACT FILE

■ The author travelled with Spanish Harbour Holidays (0117-986 0777), which offers a week at El Castell hotel, half-board, including the return flight from £510. If you drive to the area, a week's half-board would start at £430.

■ A week at Can Boix, half-board, including the return flight starts at £350; £260 without flights. Spanish Harbour also offers gites in the area from £230 per person a week, including the return flight; £115 without the flight.

■ Kon-Tiki Balloons can be contacted through Spanish Harbour or El Castell, who can also arrange canoeing at La Seu d'Urgell on the Segre, where the 1992 Olympic canoeing events were held. Whitewater rafting is also available, as are drives around the edge of the Cadí-Moixeró reserve, a 150-square mile conservation area of mountainous forests: Scots pines, silver firs, beeches, maples and aspens soaring up through juniper bushes and wild rhododendrons.

■ Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Catalonia — Voices of the Old Sea*, by Norman Lewis (Picador, £5.99); *Homage to Catalonia*, by George Orwell (Penguin, £6.99); *Barcelona and Catalunya*, by Jules Brown (Rough Guides, £8.99).

WORLD PICTURES

Silent wilderness: the Anso Valley in the Spanish Pyrenees

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AROUND THE WORLD: A WEEKEND GUIDE

Help tribes in Pakistan

DURING Pakistan's 50th anniversary year, Discovery Initiatives (0171-229 9881) is looking for volunteers, particularly women, to explore the views of tribal women in the North-West Frontier country of the Khyber Pass, the Karakoran and the Hindu Kush. No local women would discuss issues with Western men, says the company. It is working with the National Heritage Foundation of Peshawar to pioneer a Cultural Heritage Trail in a region which is home to some of Central Asia's oldest civilisations. The two-week autumn and winter trips cost £1,985 all-inclusive.

FOR adventurous pioneers who can face the bracing Siberian winds, Rambler Holidays (01707 331133) has introduced a nine-day Exploration of Snow-Covered Beijing holiday this winter. It will include the usual sights, the Great Wall, Ming Tombs and the Forbidden City, and a bit of contemporary China by visiting *its back lanes and kindergartens.* The tour costs £695-£815 and includes full board and flights.

IMPACT

What do the tribal women in Pakistan really think about their lives? Initiative Discovery is inviting volunteers to find out on a heritage trail

JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS

M-way massage

TO RELIEVE stress on motorists fighting their way down the Paris-Rhône autoroute network, service stations and rest areas are offering drivers a free massage, sight and reflex tests, as well as open-air dances and archery classes for all from June 27 to August 31.

Clowns and bouncy castles will help entertain children, with free meals and nappies for the under-twos at Relais-Bébé centres. Details from French Information on 0891 244123 (50p per minute).

Too old at 27

SHOPPING at Otvalo market in Ecuador, drinking beer for under 10p a pint in Prague, scuba diving among the sleeping sharks of the Yucatan Peninsula and Inter-Railing round Europe on £10 a day. These are among the "must do" items that Campus Travel (0171-730 3402) is urging young people to experience before they are 26 and no longer qualify for cheap tickets. The firm can book tickets to any of the destinations.

Maine chance

MUCH of the prosperity of Maine, USA, was based on its shipbuilding industry, the New England brigs, barks, windjammers and schooners sailing the world with cargoes of fish and timber, returning with sugar, coffee, molasses, rum and wool. Now we can relive the windjammer days on one of three converted schooners sailing out of Rockland.

The oldest, *Isaac H. Evans*, was built in 1886 and carries 20 passengers who can help with shipboard activities if they wish. The three to six-day voyages cruise round islands and coastal villages according to the winds and passengers' whims. Costs for three days are from \$370-\$425 (£240-£285), six days from \$635-\$745 (£425-£500), including all meals and soft drinks, but not flights. Details from North End Shipyard Schooners (001 207 594 8007; fax: 001 207 594 8015).

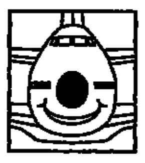
A LONG weekend in the Salzburg of Mozart, *Sound of Music* and creamy cake fame coincides with the Salzburg Summer Festival of Opera. JMB Travel (01905 425628) offers flights from Gatwick, three nights' B&B at a first-class hotel and best seats for either Mussorgsky's *Boris Godunov* or Mozart's *La Clemenza di Tito*, for £875.

Pasta times

HANDS-ON pasta-making and a top chef's dish of the day are highlights of a gastronomic and culture tour to Venice in November organised by Cox & Kings (0171-873 5010). Hosted by Roberto Wilk, an American-born Venice enthusiast, the tour also includes olive oil tasting, lunch in the fish restaurant Al Covo, a visit to a working artist's studio and a concert of Venetian composers.

The five-day trip costs £1,475 for flights, four nights' half-board at the five-star Hotel Danieli and excursions.

Kids' corner



COULD this be the start of something? Sunworld Sailing and the UK charter airline Airworld are starting a Kids' Class at the rear of aircraft for five to 12-year-olds. Supervisers will organise games, provide comics, puzzles, meals and relief for adult passengers. Other tour operators take note.

Try Morocco

ITS experience as a Tunisia specialist has helped Panorama Holidays (01273 206531) with its new programme to Morocco this winter, using direct flights from Gatwick to Agadir and Marrakesh. More favoured by independent travellers and backpackers, Morocco has been tried out by several package tour operators and then quietly dropped. Though more colourful and varied than its neighbour, the country gets numerous complaints about its aggressive touting and hassling of tourists.

Panorama's self-catering beach holidays in the purpose-built Atlantic coastal resort of Agadir start at £199 for a week including flights; an eight-day Imperial Cities Tour starts at £729 half-board.

Ship shape

ON April 15, 1912, the *Titanic*, carrying 2,207 passengers on her maiden voyage across the Atlantic, struck an iceberg and sank, killing nearly 1,500 people. It was not until 1985 that she was found, broken in two and lying at a depth of 3,800 metres below sea level.

Crockery, spectacles, personal effects of the passengers and rusted shipware salvaged from the wreck are on display in the port district of Hamburg until November 9. Films and photographs explain how the French and American divers undertook the salvage operation.

Moswin's Germany (0116-271 9922) offers short breaks to Hamburg; a two-night stay costs from £281 including entrance to the exhibition, flights and B&B accommodation in a centrally located hotel.

ABOUT 20,000 privately owned villas, apartments and gîtes are offered for rent by Interhome (0181-891 1294) throughout Europe. Each week it offers a "sale" of properties not booked for the following week at discounts of up to 30 per cent off the brochure price.
In Poland on the edge of Lake Stregiel, a house sleeping seven and ideal for fishing, walking and mushroom picking, costs a total of £199, or £28 per person, next week instead of the normal £297. A modern two-storey wooden house *situated* about 20 minutes from the centre of Prague is reduced from £319 to £214, or £54 for each of four people.

Booked up

WHILE the eccentricities and delights of Greek ferries are well documented, far less is known of the country's rail system which, after years of neglect, is enjoying something of a revival of investment and interest. According to *Greece by Rail — With Major Ferry Routes* by Zane Katsikis (Bradt Publications, £11.95), it is possible to travel round the Peloponnese, to the far corners of Thrace and even more remote areas by rail, though you may have to change trains because of incompatible track widths.

Railway buffs will enthuse about the reports of steam-hauled passenger services, now being restored, and details of precipitous rack-and-pinion ascents — from Diakafto to Kalavrita — while budget travellers will find invaluable information on low-priced accommodation and passes.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

No Cook's tour in Boston

From: A. Hunt, Atherstone, Warwickshire:

Regarding your article (Travel News, May 29) concerning Captain Cook and the UK tour of the replica *Endeavour*: I, along with many of the other 10,399 hopefuls, queued for well over two hours at Boston, Lincolnshire, to catch little more than a glimpse of the ship. After we had finally managed to visit *Endeavour*, we were then forced into yet another lengthy queue to get some relevant literature. Surely the organisers had visited *Victory* in Portsmouth where an excellent timed ticket system operates? All this and much more, in an organisational way, was lacking on *Endeavour*.

☐ After one million people turned up at Whiby to see the ship on its UK tour, the Endeavour Foundation finally introduced a timed ticket system.

From: D.J.Turner, Beauly, Inverness-shire:

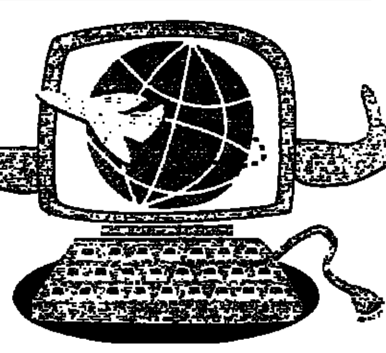
I was interested in Tom Pocock's "Long day's rail journey to Venice" (Weekend, June 7). My wife and I made a similar journey last year. But I must point out an error in the article. Trains to/from Paris to the southeast, TGV or otherwise, use the Gare de Lyon station, not the Gare de l'Est.

☐ Tom Pocock comments: You are right. I apologise for the slip.

● *We welcome letters on holiday travel. Send them to: Letters, Travel Department*, The Times, *1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN, or fax 0171-782 5124.*

Switched-on travelling

By next year we will be booking holidays from our TV screens, says **Linsey McNeill**



Booking a holiday from a glossy brochure could become as outdated as a Magic Bus trip to Kathmandu from next summer. Travel firms and airlines looking to cut distribution costs are dabbling in new multimedia outlets which will transmit images of foreign delights direct to our homes, offices and computers.

With interactive technology, booking and payment down the line will become a viable option for 21st-century travel. By next summer it will be possible to book and pay for flights or holidays straight from the television screens.

British Interactive Broadcasting (BIB) is planning an interactive home shopping service, including travel products, on television next July. Initially it will be available to the 5.6 million households with access to BSkyB. But cable television companies are also expected to announce plans for their own on-line shopping services shortly.

Armchair shopping is already big business in the UK where 15 per cent of all holidays booked are advertised on Teletext. BIB is to make its service interactive, allowing viewers to make bookings at the press of a button. It will also show video clips, maps and pictures of hotels and resorts.

The service will be accessible from normal television sets which will need set-top boxes, expected to cost £200, to decode digital signals.

Chris Townsend of BIB said the company was talking to several travel firms, including Thomas Cook, about offering holidays for sale on television. Many travel-related companies already sell on the Internet, including more than 300 airlines, 1,000 hotels, 100 car rental companies and more than 1,000 travel agents.

While heavily geared to the American market, which accounts for 85 per cent of all travel purchases, BIB expects many travel companies will eventually offer their products through TV shopping channels. Thomas Cook, which tested armchair shopping two years ago among 2,500 homes in East Anglia, has been working with BIB. It is expected to use the home shopping service initially to sell special interest holidays such as skiing, sailing and walking tours.

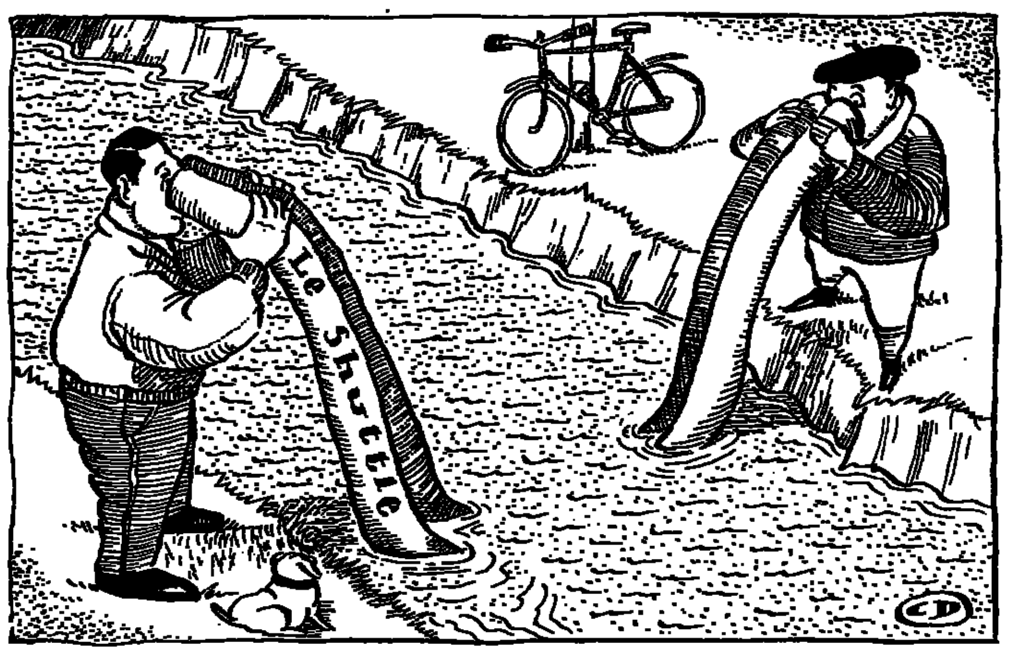
Thomas Cook has also pioneered mobile booking kiosks which allow customers to book and pay for holidays in commercial outlets other than travel agencies. Each kiosk is a personal computer with a touch-sensitive screen, built-in phone and credit card reader.

Customers can browse through brochures on screen and when they want to make a booking they pick up the phone, which gives them a two-way video link-up with a consultant at Thomas Cook's Peterborough telesales centre.. Two kiosks have been set up in David Lloyd Health and Fitness Centres in Sidcup, Kent, and Raynes Park, southwest London. If they attract enough interest, Thomas Cook plans to install them in other David Lloyd centres in the UK.

Thomson Holidays and British Airways are carrying out similar trials with Touchpoint kiosks. These are Pentium PCs attached to BT payphones, which display flight and holiday information as well as other services; 200 kiosks have been installed in London and the South East for a trial period, after which they may be set up across the UK.

● *Linsey McNeill is the author of* Travel in the Digital Age *(Bowerdean, £12.99).*

Shuttling under the Channel



LE SHUTTLE is looking to win back lost customers to its car-carrying service through the Channel Tunnel with a £2 million promotional relaunch this summer. The company resumed full service of up to four departures an hour on June 1, following the tunnel fire which restricted capacity last November.

While it has managed to maintain car numbers in the first five months of 1997, Le Shuttle has seen Dover-based ferries mop up an additional 1.5 million passengers compared with the same period last year. As a result, *Le Shuttle's* share of the "short-sea" car market has plunged from 50 to 36 per cent.

The company is avoiding the obvious — but suicidal — tactic of price-cutting to win back traffic, keeping standard return fares to £129, £169 and £199, depending on the time of travel. Instead, it is looking to "add value" to its service in a Happy 100 Days promotion which began this week. Live entertainment, food and wine tastings, competitions, special offers, shopping vouchers and free motoring itineraries are among the offerings at its Folkestone terminal.

The British account for two-thirds of Le Shuttle customers. But the promotion is also being mounted in Calais where the French are being offered Lamberhurst wine and Shepherd's Neame beer from Kent. Summer is a crucial period for cross-Channel ferries, hit by dramatic falls in income since the tunnel opened in 1994.

Le Shuttle is adding pressure by some heavy advertising of its duty-free prices: up to two-thirds off high street figures and lower than those of the ferries — which make 50 per cent of their revenue from on-board sales.

Bill Dix, Le Shuttle managing director, denied the promotion was designed as a blatant bribe to holidaymakers to turn their back on the ferries.

"We want to provide people with a shop window of what they can see and do on the other side of the Channel. We are responding to their needs," he said. Le Shuttle is now taking bookings in advance, as well as retaining some space for turn-up-and-go customers. Mr Dix said up to two-thirds of space would be given over to pre-booked customers. But company research shows that only 23 per cent of customers are going on holiday, well behind the 38 per cent who are going shopping. A further one in five is travelling on business.

STEVEN KEENAN

WORD WATCHING

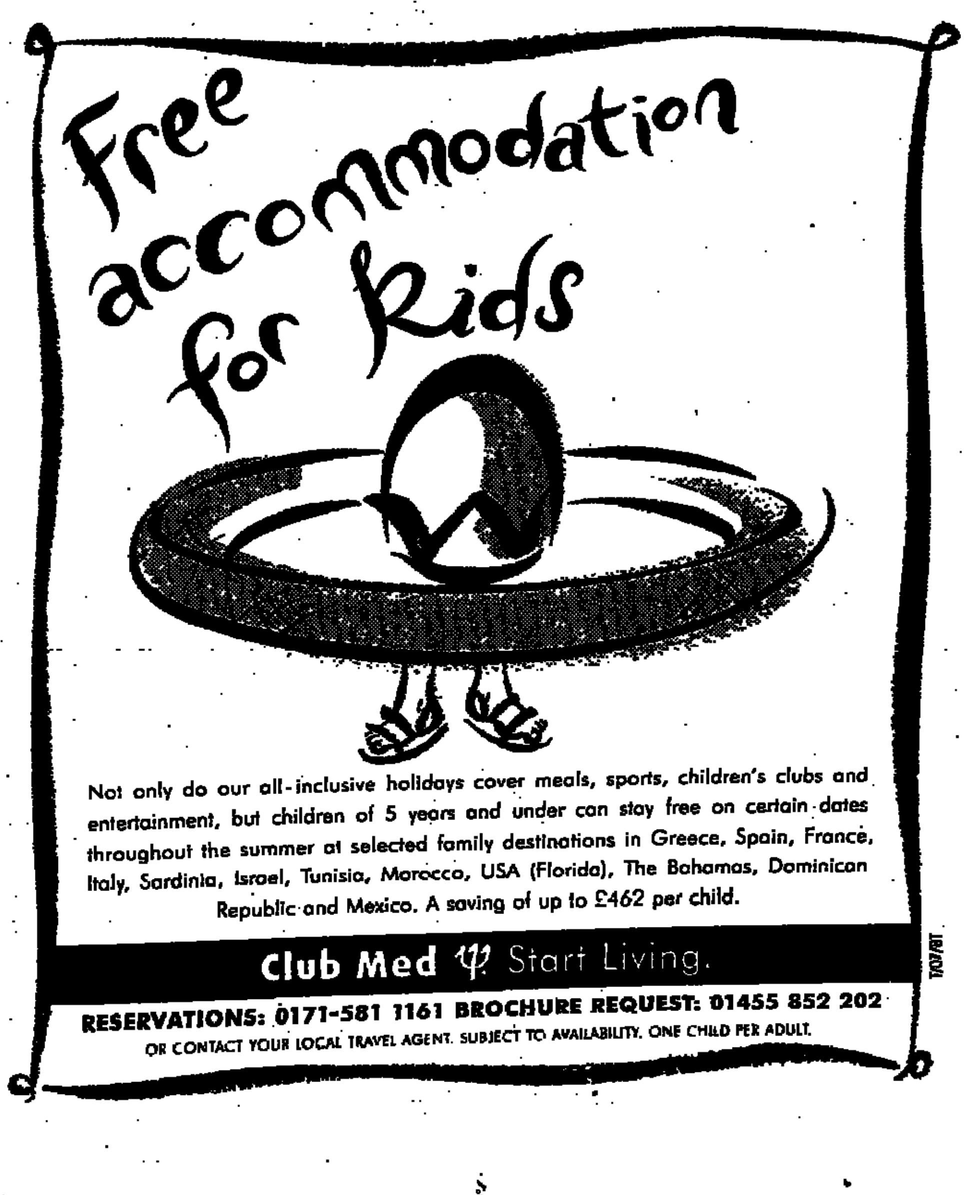
Answers from page 25

ULTRAMONTANE
(a) Literally, beyond the mountains, from the Latin. It used to mean that faction in the Roman Catholic church which either lived north of the Alps, outside Italy, and opposed the concept of papal supremacy, or lived south of the Alps, within Italy, and favoured the concept of papal supremacy.

ITAIITAI
(c) A bone disease caused by cadmium. It is said to be derived from the Japanese for "Ouch! Ouch!" On this pattern, it should be possible to provide more echoic names for other diseases and conditions. So, "Eek, eek!" for arachnophobia; "Er, er!" for aphasia; "Unh, unh!" for constipation.

TORREFY
(b) To parch or scorch; to dry with heat. From the Latin *torreo* I toast or scorch. The female electrical hair-drier with white-hot curlers can justly be referred to as a torrefier.

DISSAVE
(a) This charming word means just what it ought to mean — the opposite of save. To dissave is the Micawber option practised by most of us, to spend more than one's income, by drawing upon one's savings or capital. In a sense, the ultimate object of all saving is dissaving.



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T/07/CT

Greece: A wander through the spectacular peaks and gorges of hilltop villages; plus, cruising the islands

In the thrall of a mountain fling

"Greece?" they say, lips curling slightly. Unlike Tuscany or the South of France, it is as if Greece has somehow become a second-grade holiday destination. We're so familiar with the images of tourism torture: concrete, yob-strewn devastation in parts of Corfu; Athens, one great bad-tempered belch of exhaust fumes; sad food, airport hells.

But it is still possible to travel magnificently, unforgettably in Greece: I flew to Preveza, climbed into a tiny hot car and headed for the Zagorichoria, that cluster of tiny mountain villages amid peaks and gorges that hurt the heart at first sight. You climb hairpin bends towards mountains still with streaks of snow across their broad backs, like basking killer whales. Beneath these are pillars of cliff with mountainsides intensely green. Beneath the cliffs cling the grey stone roofs of the village of Mikro Papingo, barnacled onto the steep sides of some of the most beautiful country on earth.

This is the region of Epiros, the romantic Roumeli of Patrick Leigh Fermor's book. At the Dias guest house set on a terrace high above the world, I woke to the skewiff percussion of dozens of goat bells, as the goats were shepherded through the rock-cobbled pathway beneath my window. There were no roads — just paths flanked by high stone walls and wild flowers, just wide enough for two old women to pause in passing, clicking their teeth over the way the world is going.

The visitors here are independent-minded. Speaking Greek — even my shameful, rudimentary version — will enrich your trip immeasurably. Some are travellers — explorers of the more laid-back sort; others walkers or trekkers. I was reminded of pre-war alpine walking tours; imagine Switzerland if the Swiss lightened up a very great deal. There were wholesome elderly couples challenging retirement in stout boots, their faces like raspberries from the sun. And the food proves my gastronomic creed that when something very simple is good, nothing can beat it. At Dias, the enterprising host Costas Tsoumanis will feed you day or night; he even fixed me a snack for departure — a tranche of crusty bread bursting with herb-roasted cold pork, local goat's cheese and tomatoes.

The Zagori makes the eyes of Greeks from other parts of the country glow with pride. The air is so clean, they say, you want to drink it; there are still eagles, hovering on thermals; stone packhorse bridges span clear streams in semi-circles so perfect that the secret of constructing them has, naturally, died out. Conservation is a reality — all rebuilding is done in local stone.

A kilometre from where I stayed, you can go for a waterfall swim, secluded by trees and birdsong. The gushing water has scalloped out pale cream rock into bowls, where you can lie with the water cascading over your shoulders before lying out like a lizard on the rocks to dry.

The Meteora — literally "rocks in the air" — is where geology goes acrobatic. They are sheer and vertiginous, soaring into the sky, with monasteries nesting improbably on top. I climbed to the monastery of St Balaam, where decades ago Leigh Fermor woke at dawn to bells. Today he would be greeted by piles of long skirts, kept at the entry for the hot-panted and miniskirted visitors, to hide yards of sinful flesh.

Inside the chapel, all is still rich darkness. I was transfixed by a sudden gleam of red in the mural. Beneath the scales of Right and Wrong, cowering bodies are grabbed dramatically by red ochre devils, seizing them down into hellfire. *L'enfer, c'est les autres.* The red smear of hell was echoed — though it was only May, in my opinion as late into the summer as you should consider — in the crimson faces of German coach parties, near seizure from the climb. The survivors are shepherded into their own hot hell of the tourist bus. Above them, timelessly, two nuns lean over the balcony, spectacles glinting.

I wouldn't stay in noisy Kalambaka, the dormitory town beneath the rocks: the air is cleaner a few miles out at Trigona, where family hospitality at the Trigona Hotel will soothe you. Getting there — via some of the most dramatic mountain ranges the world has thrown together — is now easy. The famous Katara Pass is spectacular. Just do the drive sober and wide awake, taking a patience pill for the hour when you're trapped behind a petrol tanker.

There is much evidence of investment: tunnels carved through mountains, new bridges, improved roads. Blue road signs with the EU symbol announce massive new construction projects, specifying how many millions of Ecus have been spent — memorials to our unwitting generosity as European taxpayers.

Down on the coast, Parga is picturesque, if the picture you start with is a fishing village, St Ives-size, just on the point of moron meltdown. On the day I arrived, remembering a harbour with a couple of good tavernas, the coaches were lined all the way up the approach road, the tiny streets heaving with holidaymakers.

Back in the car for the getaway to end all getaways. Within half an hour's drive you can cross Acheron, the river Styx, and climb the hill to the Necromanteion, where you are supposed to be able to find the spirits of the dead. Entry to the other world costs less than a pound; I spent an idyllic morning wandering in the ruins, lost in thought. This is what makes it worth gritting your teeth at Prevesa airport, where the single check-in creates an hour-long queue through the airport, and all down the sun-baked road. Just remember how you removed your wristwatch with a sigh of relief on arrival.

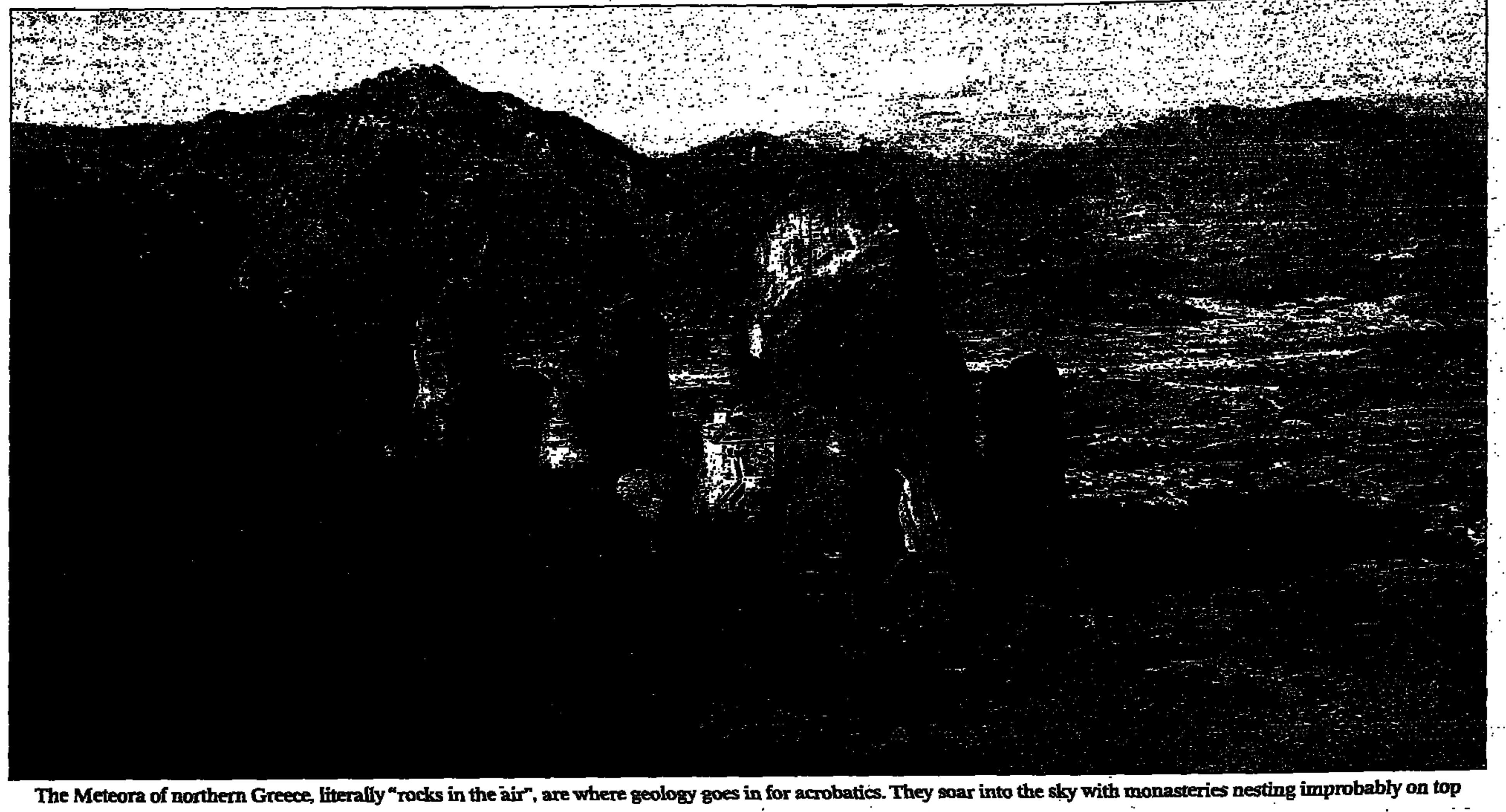
BELINDA HARLEY

FACT FILE

■ The author travelled with Voyages Ilena (0171-924 4440). The company has a week's fly-drive holiday to Prevesa from £699-£810, for two people including flights, car and insurance. A week's B&B at the Dias guest house in Mikro Papingo costs from £502-£557 per person, with flights, car and insurance. Flights to Prevesa from Gatwick take three hours.

■ Reading: The Travel Bookshop (0171-229 5260) recommends: *Penguin History of Greece*, by A.R.Burn (Penguin, £9.99); *The Unwritten Places*, by Tim Salmon (Lycabettus Press, £9.95); *Roumeli: Travels in northern Greece*, by Patrick Leigh Fermor (Penguin, £7.99).

TONY STONE



The Meteora of northern Greece, literally "rocks in the air", are where geology goes in for acrobatics. They soar into the sky with monasteries nesting improbably on top

PICTURES

Parga is pretty but its tiny streets are full of tourists

Heaven and high water

For scenic beauty and cultural interest, the Aegean is without doubt the most splendid cruising ground in the world. However, as they are usually quite brief, cruises rather serve as an introduction to these waters.

Inevitably, the ships remain fairly small as so many ports of call are made at cramped and crowded harbours or anchorages. We chose a three-day cruise which took us to Mykonos, Rhodes, Patmos, Kusadasi and back to Piraeus — all within 70 hours — on the *Triton* of the Epirotiki Cruise Line. It was a good choice. Built in Rotterdam in 1971, its design and layout was most suitable for this business and it was so well maintained that it carried its years well.

A high standard of discipline and order was essential with a full load of 600 passengers from several nationalities — without any single one being predominant — and so many arrivals and departures, meals and entertainments.

Clear public broadcast announcements in four languages — English, Spanish, Greek and Japanese — achieved this purpose. Our cabin speakers could be turned off and the insulation was so good we could be left in peace.

The first stop was at Mykonos, where we anchored so close inshore that two headlines were run out to a bollard on a beach. This reflected the fact that six other cruise ships were to crowd into this tiny anchorage at the same time. The launch service went smoothly, leaving us two hours to walk around.

That night we steamed to Rhodes where we berthed at dawn besides the old walled city with its fortress and Palace of the Grand Masters of The Order of St John.

Before the Second World War, it had been entirely reconstructed within, by the Italian government, as a holiday home for Mussolini. We walked around the decaying old walled town and in the afternoon took a bus to the crowded beach at Faliraki for a swim. At dusk, we sailed for Patmos and by 7am were ashore and walking the steep, cobbled pathway to the monastery of St John the Divine. Halfway up we visited the cave where St John recorded his meetings with the Almighty in the Book of Revelations.

At 9am we were off to Kusadasi in, as the ship's management insisted, "Asia Minor". We had five hours ashore where we walked the port, streets and market. The shopkeepers had many buyers, the interest concentrated on carpets and leather. It seemed natural for the young salesmen to boast of girlfriends in Salisbury and Edinburgh.

There were bus tours at the ports to the historic sites, quite expensive but well supported.

On Sunday night, we steamed back to Piraeus at full speed. The Gala Dinner was much the best meal served on board but our attempts to dance the night away were frustrated by the *Triton* as she forced her way back to Piraeus through the Meltemi — the Aegean wind which blows strongly in July and August. Soon after dinner, the dance floor was strangely deserted.

MALCOLM MACKENZIE

● *Epirotiki now trades as Royal Olympic Cruises (0171-734 0805). The company has four-night cruises, flying from the UK on Thursday, overnight in Athens and transfer on board on Friday. Current schedules until the end of October include Mykonos, Rhodes, Patmos, Kusadasi and arrival back in Piraeus on Monday. Prices from £479 per person, including flights, transfers, hotel, meals and entertainment.*

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On board there is a wide choice of inviting public areas including the Observation Lounge, where most evenings passengers gather for a briefing or recap on the day with the expedition team and guest naturalists. In addition there is an excellently stocked library and spacious and comfortable deck areas. The Lookout Point is always popular, offering as it does excellent bird's eye views and nearby the Bridge is open to all as the vessel operates an 'open bridge' policy.

Polaris has a fine reputation as a top notch expedition ship and nowhere is this more true than in the attractive dining room. The galley, only having to prepare food for a maximum of eighty passengers, is able to produce delicious meals which are served leisurely in a single sitting.

All the cabins have outside views, are well planned and offer all you could require for the cruise.

The atmosphere is relaxed and informal. There is no need for dressy clothing of any kind, even for dinner. The small complement of like-minded travellers encourages a spirit of camaraderie and a sense of shared adventure. The guest and local onboard naturalist contribute enormously to your understanding of this world in microcosm.

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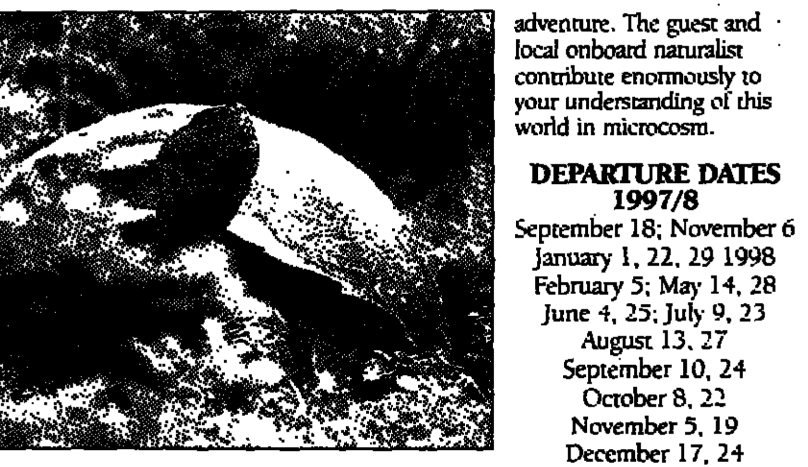

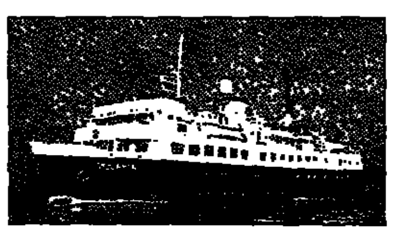

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Britain: Despite the tourists, this rocky peninsula of Arthurian legend and folklore has kept its beauty

Bowled over by Gower

When Gower was designated Britain's first Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, complacent residents thought official recognition would not threaten their closely guarded secret.

Forty years and hundreds of thousands of tourists later, this rural refuge sandwiched between the industrial conurbations of Swansea and Llanelli in South Wales has somehow managed to retain its individuality. Beauty spots largely survive the inevitable intrusion of the car and nightlife is confined to the occasional teenagers' bonfire on Oxwich beach.

Although the Gower peninsula is less than 20 miles long and no more than eight miles wide, it is large enough to embrace two distinct communities, where accents, place names and even the landscape celebrate contrasting traditions. Cefn Bryn, a roof-like hill that runs roughly but conveniently from east to west, marks the division between an anglicised south and the Welshness to the north.

Norman settlers and their successors have appropriated the most fertile agricultural land and the dragon's share of the scenic set pieces and sandy beaches, leaving the low-lying northern land with its marshes, coal measures and cockle beds to the earlier inhabitants.

Along the southern coastline prehistoric eruptions have stacked the limestone strata of the cliffs almost vertically and half a dozen Norman castles around the perimeter are evidence of more recent disturbances. Everywhere trees hunch their backs against westerly winds that whip in from the sea. And yet, in sheltered spots, palm trees thrive. Near the summit of Cefn Bryn stands Arthur's Stone, a 4,000-year-old chambered tomb topped by a massive 25-ton capstone. Legend says it was a "pebble" discarded from the great king's shoe. Further down the hill in Reynoldston, Len O'Driscoll, landlord of the King Arthur Hotel, is happy to capitalise on a tale that brings coachloads of tourists to his door and quotes Thomas Heywood's lines which tell of Arthur's lands, "from Guernsey to Gower".

In private, he concedes that the stone's name more probably derives from *arth*, the Welsh word for a bear, and refers to the stone's location in relation to the stellar constellations. Anyway, the landlord boasts links with a more recent species of legend. For late-night customers who can recite the 1948 Swansea Town half-back line of Paul, Weston, Burns he will heave on to the bar a collection of giant scrapbooks containing memorabilia from distant soccer games featuring his father Jack, an Irish international import of great skill. A reunion of surviving local heroes was held recently at the hotel.

Rhossili marks the most westerly point on the peninsula. The location is dramatised by the silhouette of Worm's Head, a monster-like promontory that appears to battle tirelessly with the tides. Such fanciful imagery seems justified when one learns that *wurm* was an old Norse word for serpent. A word of warning: before venturing on to the Worm, which is transformed from a peninsula into an island twice a day, check tide tables at the coastguard station. Dylan Thomas was once marooned here.

Gulls and sheep negotiate the steep cliffs overlooking Rhossili Bay 200 feet below, but visitors should beware in summer when dry grass transforms the verges into treacherous ski slopes. At low tide, the ribs of a ship wrecked more than a century ago and stripped bare protrude from the sand like a seabird's carcass. The three-mile stretch of beach easily absorbs a teeming Bank Holiday throng. Clifton tearooms offer refreshments and a breathtaking panorama for bathers breathless after the steep climb back.

Some landowners have found car parks and caravan sites for holidaymakers a more lucrative cash crop than early vegetables. Not all manifestations of the tourist influx over the past four decades have been as disagreeable as the prospect of caravandalised cliffs.

Surfers, for instance, add to the general enjoyment as they perform their wavetop ballets, and multi-coloured hang-gliders launched from the summit of Rhossili Down make a compelling view.

Further inland there are more private pleasures such as Mill Wood, a cool refuge on the warmest day. The wood straddles Pennyhitch, the steep tunnel of a lane where once an enterprising rustic hired out his horse for a penny to help carts up the incline.

Fairyhill, too, takes a little finding but is well worth the effort. Situated in 24 sylvan acres near the pretty village of Reynoldston, at the heart of Gower, the hotel occupies a Georgian mansion that was once owned by a philanthropic aristocrat. The chef, Paul Davies, makes wide use of local produce, though he says that once the spring lambs begin gambolling in the nearby fields he might just as well remove that item from his lunch menu.

The Oxwich cottage where John Wesley stayed on a visit to Gower in the 18th century may still be seen. The great preacher is said to have found the locals in dire need of religion. What then would he make today of the chapel abandoned by the Methodists and transformed into an elegant residence?

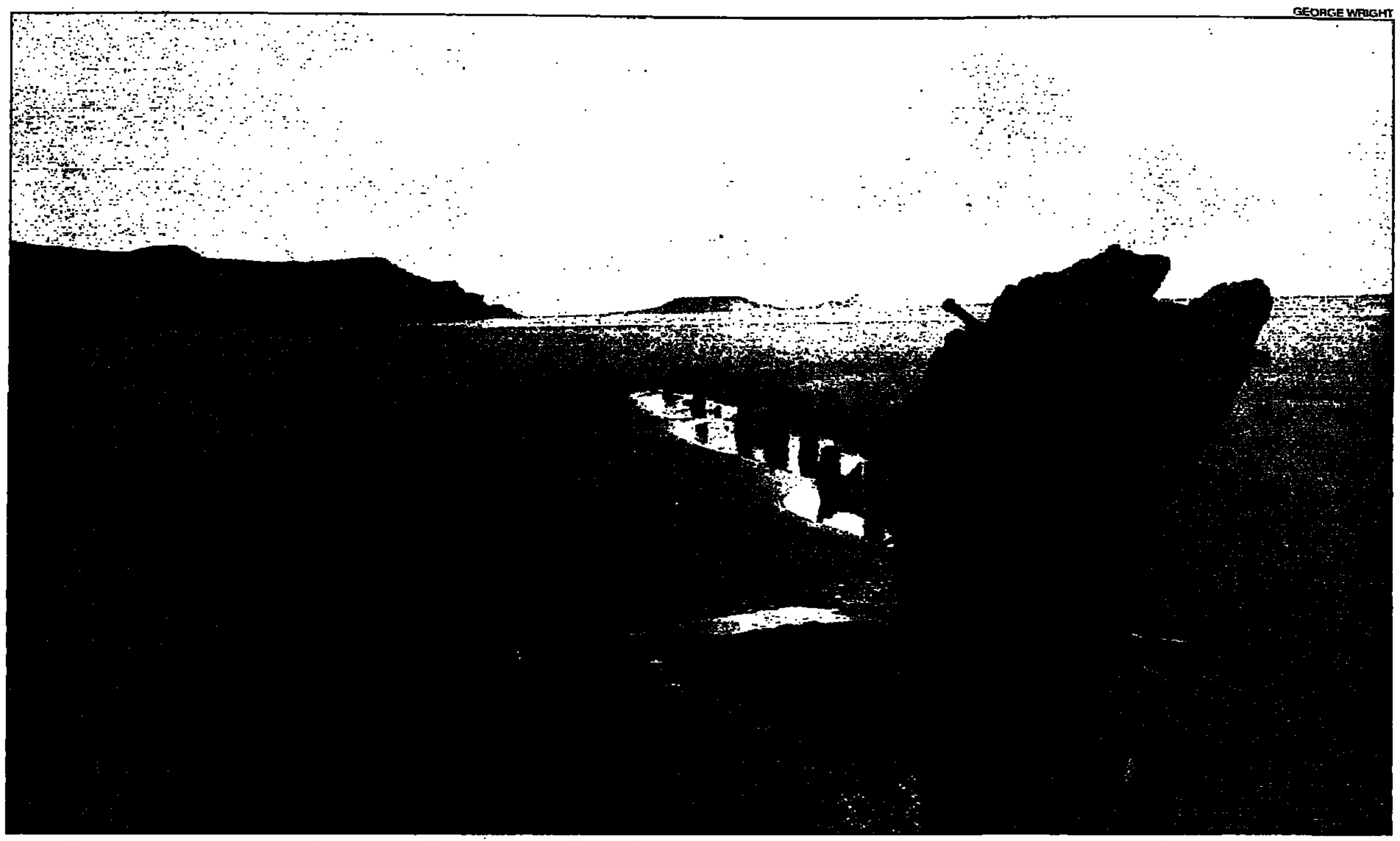
Clearly, Gower's secret is out, but the Arthurian connection is not to be believed. If the old boy had ever lived here, he would not have quit.

ALAN ROAD

FACT FILE

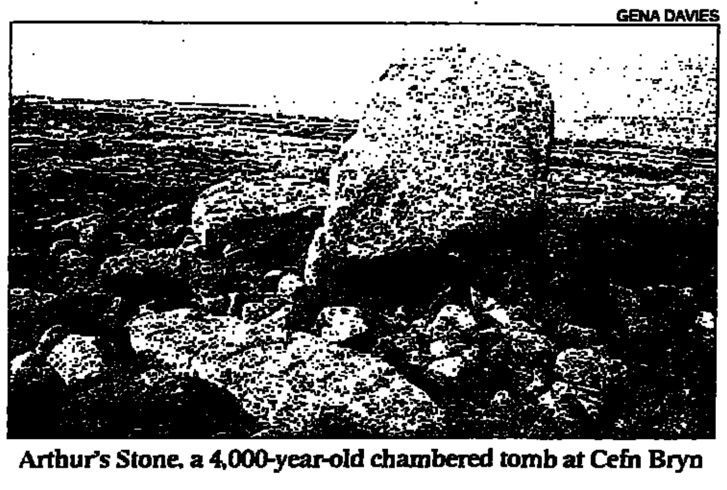
- Tourist information office (01792 468321).
- Where to stay: Fairyhill Hotel and Restaurant, B&B double from £85 (01792 390139). King Arthur Hotel, B&B double from £45 (01792 391099).
- Places to visit include: T Felin Ddwr, the Gower Heritage Centre, Parkmill (01792 371206); the Salthouse, Port Eynon (01792 635741); the Lovespoon Gallery, Mumbles (01792 360132).
- Gower Festival (mostly music) at local churches. July 12-26. Details: 01792 468321.

GEORGE WRIGHT

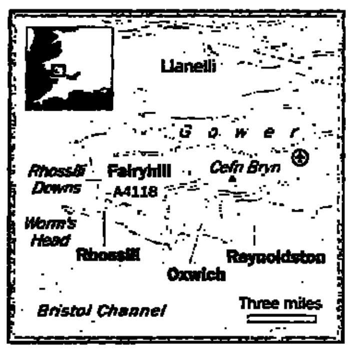


Distant creature: Worm's Head, a monster-like promontory of rock, from Rhossili beach. Walkers are advised to check tide times before venturing near it

GENA DAVIES



Arthur's Stone, a 4,000-year-old chambered tomb at Cefn Bryn



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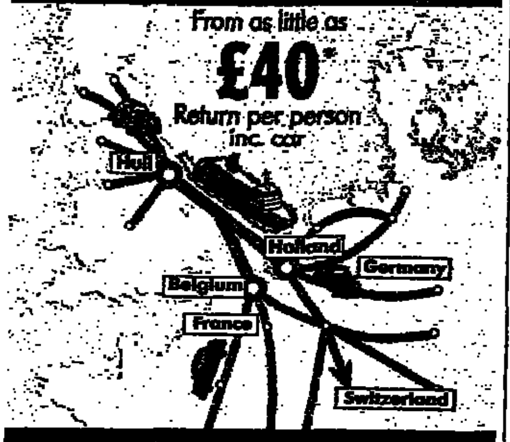

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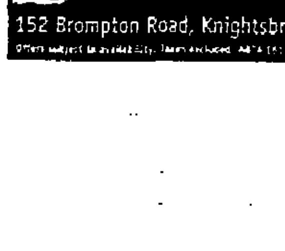

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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

USUALLY the best chess writers are the best players. Both Alexander Alekhine and Garry Kasparov stand out, not only as superlative champions, but also as commentators. Soviet world champion Mikhail Botvinnik insisted that aspiring grandmasters should publish notes to their games. Occasionally, though, a superb writer appears whose distinction in tournament or match play is quite modest. A fine example was R. N. Coles. Now Dover has reissued *Epic Battles of the Chessboard* by Coles, a collection of 50 games from 1834 to 1951. All the examples are replete with sacrifices, sudden strokes and amazing ideas. Here is one example with notes based on those from the book.

White: Milan Vidmar. Black: Max Euwe Carlsbad 1929

Torre Attack

1 d4 Nf6 2 Nf3 g6
3 Bg5 Bg7 4 Nbd2 c5
5 e3

Advancing the pawn only one square in order to set up a solid centre and neutralise the activity of Black's king's bishop.

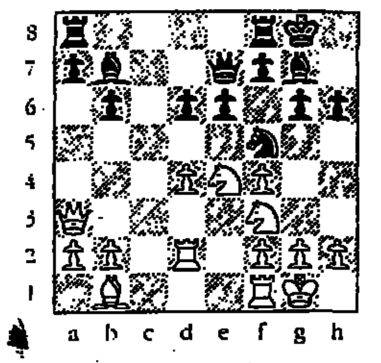
5 ... b6 6 Bd3 Bb7
***7 0-0 h6 8 Bf4* d6**
9 c3 Nh5 10 Qb3

White sacrifices pawn structure for active piece play.

10 ... Nxf4 11 exf4 0-0

If now 12 Bxg6 c4 13 Nxc4 d5 14 Nce5 fxg6 or 12 Bxg6 c4 13 Qxc4 d5, in both cases with Black winning material. Coles also analyses 12 dxc5 dxc5 13 Bxg6 Bd5 14 c4 Bxf3 15 Qxf3 fxg6 16 Qxa8 Qxd2. White does well to avoid this.

12 Rad1 Nc6 13 Bb1 cxd4
14 cxd4 e6 15 Ne4 Ne7
16 Qa3 Nf5 17 Rd2 Qe7



Black has emerged into the middlegame with a highly satisfactory position. He has avoided White's tactical tricks and retains a number of strategic advantages.

18 Ng3 Nxg3 19 fxg3 Rfc8
20 g4

Aware of his strategic inferiority, *White lashes out and tries for* complications.

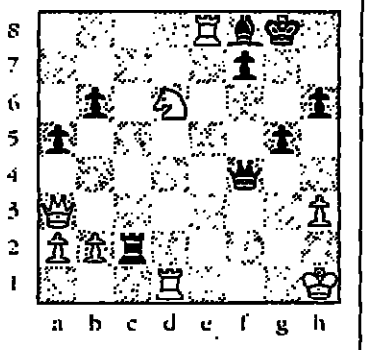
20 ... Rc7 21 f5 exf5
22 gxf5 g5 23 Re1 Qf6
24 h3 Rac8 25 Rdd1 Rc4
26 d5 a5

Here 26 ... g4 would be stronger. Black is looking for a decisive combination but has underestimated White's chances.

27 Nd2 Qd4+ 28 Kh1 Qxd5

Inaugurating what appears to be the decisive combination. Black sees mating possibilities by means of a combinative assault on White's king.

29 Be4 Rxe4 30 Nxe4 Qxf5
31 Nxd6 Bxg2+32 Kxg2 Rc2+
33 Kh1 Qf4 34 Re8+ Bf8



A tense moment, with both players in time trouble. Black threatens a devastating checkmate, but it is White's move and he has a brilliant escape clause.

35 Rxf8+ Kxf8 36 Nf5+ Kg8
37 Qf8+ Black resigns

It is mate next move after 37 ... Kxf8 38 Rd8. A galling experience for Black, a future world champion, who had to concede while still threatening his own mate on the move. For this exquisite piece of play Vidmar was awarded a brilliancy prize.

- Epic Battles of the Chessboard *by R.N. Coles is published by Dover at £7.95*

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

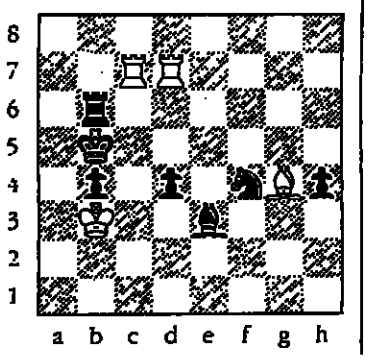
White to play. This position is from the game Bogolyubov - Sultan Khan, Prague 1931.

In this tricky endgame White found a problem-like solution to finish the game. What was his key first move? The first correct answer drawn on Thursday will win a year's subscription to the Staunton Society which includes a free invitation to the annual dinner at Simpson's-in-the-Strand.

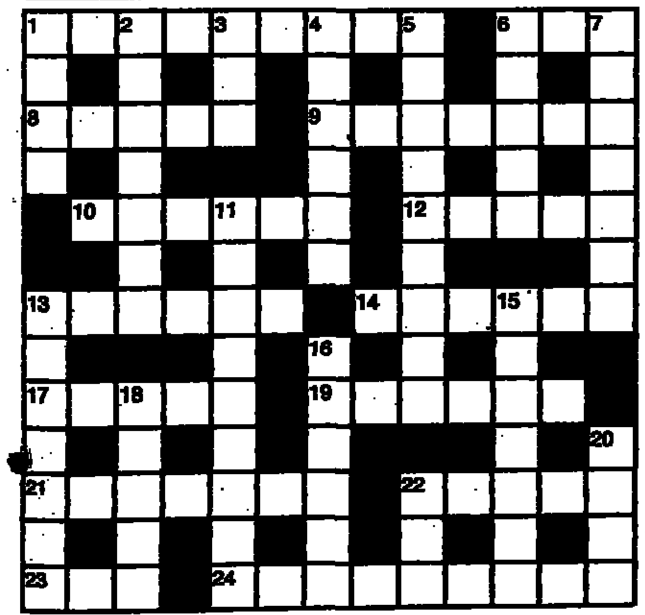
The answer will be published next Saturday.

Last week's solution. 1 Bf6

Last week's winner: D. Thorne, Canton, Cardiff.



TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 1126

ACROSS
1 Help yourself (2,2,5)
6 Headgear (3); EU farm subsidy (1,1,1)
8 Shroud in mist (5)
9 Directest path (7)
10 Casual, inexact (6)
12 Join-on-the-end dance (5)
13 Look for food (6)
14 Wm —, discovered blood circulation (6)
17 Bird; two-under shot (5)
19 Hun leader (6)
21 Elegantly thin (7)
22 Well done! (5)
23 Soft, thick bundle (3)
24 Painstaking care (9)

DOWN
1 New child (4)
2 Scarf (7)
3 Band date; old carriage (3)
4 Rudimentary stage; unborn creature (6)
5 Vigorous, incisive (9)
6 Stone heap; sort of *terrier* (5)
7 (Session) of all members (7)
11 Obstinate (3-6)
13 Wood-patterning cutter (7)
15 Criminal; wicked character (7)
16 Peace-keeping tour (6)
18 Avarice (5)
20 Oppressive rule; sounds like *part of egg* (4)
22 Marshy ground (3)

SOLUTION TO NO 1125

ACROSS: 1 Case 3 Welshman 8 Tobacco 10 Aural 11 Dream ticket 13 Spot on 15 Ostler 17 Histrionics 20 Talon 21 Daytime 22 Geometer 23 Smut

DOWN: 1 Cut a dash 2 Sabre 4 Exotic 5 Shanks's pony 6 Marital 7 Null 9 Common sense 12 Prospect 14 Othello 16 Bridle 18 Idiom 19 Stag

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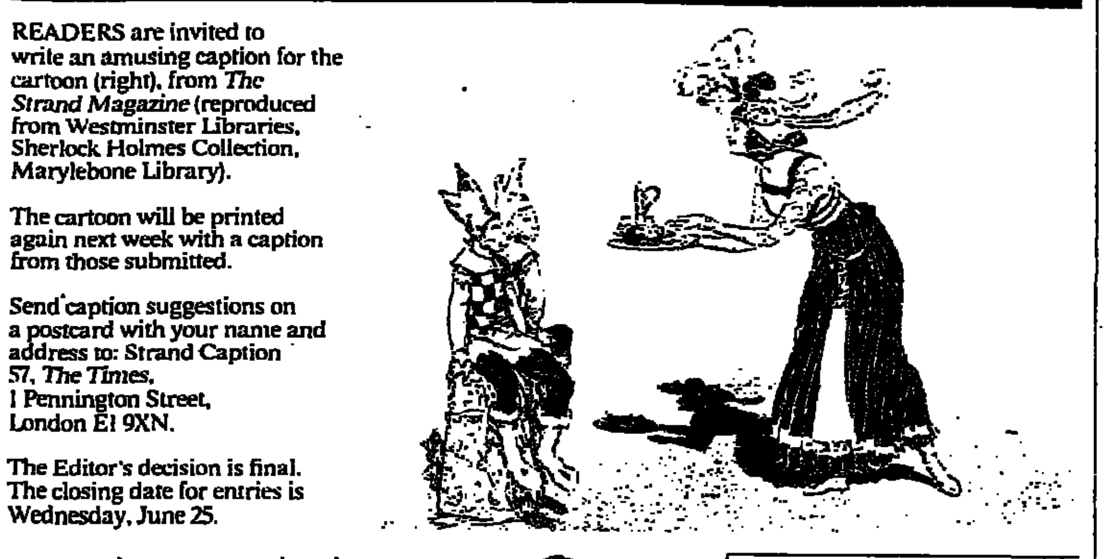
PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from *The Strand Magazine* (reproduced from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library).

The cartoon will be printed again next week with a caption from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption 57, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, June 25.



"We're sorry old boy but someone has to lead the Tory Party"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Mark Walsingham of Farnham, Surrey

WORD WATCHING

By Philip Howard

ULTRAMONTANE
a. Beyond the mountains
b. Extravagant
c. *A Buddhist tract*

ITAIITAI
a. The nightingale
b. Tuna suchi
c. A bone disease

TORREFY
a. An Irish alarm
b. To toast
c. *A wide-meshed lace*

DISSAVE
a. Not to save
b. To disavow
c. A Moroccan horse bandit

Answers on page 21

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

THIS IS the play on the first round of a suit that has been opened on your left and supported on your right:

	4	
7 led		(i)K (ii) A
	J52	

Who holds the other honours? The thinking was important in the play of the hand below:

Dealer West Game all Rubber Bridge

	North	
	♠K732 ♥Q10742 ♦4 ♣A83	
♠AQ105 ♥K ♦Q10876 ♣QJ4	N W E S	♠986 ♥983 ♦AK93 ♣765
	♠J4 ♥AJ65 ♦J52 ♣K1092	

S	W	N	E
-	1 D	Dble	3 D
3 H	Pass	4 H	All Pass

Contract: Four Hearts by South
Lead: the seven of diamonds

After North's double, Three Diamonds by East is pre-emptive. With a sound raise to the three level he would bid 2NT. That bid is not required for balanced 11-12 point hands, on which East would redouble. Both North's take-out double and raise to Four Hearts were aggressive actions. Four Hearts is on the face of it a poor contract, requiring both the king of hearts and the ace of spades to be well-placed, and needing something else in the wash.

East wins the first diamond with the king and returns the six of clubs, which goes small, jack, ace. When you lead a heart from dummy, Easts follows small. What is your plan?

The play to the first trick marks East with the ace and king of *diamonds. That is because West* will not underlead the ace. So who has the king of hearts? It has to be West — with Kx(x) of hearts and ace and king of diamonds, East would be too strong for a pre-emptive raise in diamonds. Thus it is clear for declarer to play the ace of hearts — his only chance being that West's king is singleton. With the ace of spades onside that brings home the contract.

But that's not what happened at the table. I was declarer and East, Lionel Wright, manager of TGR's, won the first trick with the *ace* of diamonds before returning a club.

If the defence are not false-carding that marks West with the king and East with the queen of diamonds — West would lead the king from KQxxx. I should still have played for the king of hearts to drop when East follows small to the first heart — if East has Kx(x) and no singleton, he might well have bid 1NT over the double, and if he has a singleton he would have been worth 2NT to show a good raise to Three Diamonds.

However, the message wasn't so clear and I decided to finesse the heart. Now West should have exited passively, but he too was fooled by his partner's play of the ace of diamonds. He thought that marked declarer with the king; in case I had KJ he continued with the queen of clubs, so the contract still came home.

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

by Tim Wapshott

EUROPRESS has succeeded where hundreds of Internet users and the Smurfs have failed — by winning approval from Oasis. The band is getting tough on fans illegally posting its material on the Internet, and has already prevented the Smurfs from covering their classic *Wonderwall*. But the **Oasis Interactive Songbook** has the perennially grumpy band's blessing.

The Songbook features every track on the album *(What's The Story) Morning Glory*, breaking each down into easily digested guitar, keyboard and vocal parts. Nor are these poor twangy renditions of the original songs rerecorded by lesser mortals, they are the originals with vocals provided by the Brothers Gallagher and co. The Oasis Interactive Songbook, all the more appealing for its authenticity, accommodates novices as well as seasoned musicians. The guitar parts, for example, are illustrated not by conventional musical notation but with graphics instead, showing how each chord should be played. The chords can be further depicted by an animated hand picking out the correct fingering.

Keyboard chords are variously illustrated, while the vocal parts flash up like lyrics on a karaoke machine. The music can be paused at any point in a song or repeated endlessly, with guitar and keyboard parts played in isolation, to make lighter work of learning and practising. In addition to the song tutorials, the double CD-Rom title includes a miscellany of Oasis trivia with a biography and discography database as well as an Oasis quiz. The latter is really just another way of presenting 50 Things You Never Knew About Oasis. The band, incidentally, is due to release its third album, *Be Here Now*, later this summer. This is the first in a series of Songbooks from Europress, with U2 and Blur expected to be the next to get this interactive treatment.

The Oasis Interactive Songbook has the perennially grumpy band's blessing

Poor old **Rock'n'Rom** got off to a rather rocky start but it is now finding the going a little more stable. This CD-Rom is an arid and clinical pop database listing historical single and album chart sales in Britain and America from around the time records began — in 1955 in America, and 1960 in Britain. It can be searched several ways — by artist, writer, date, song or album title and so on. The original version of Rock'n'Rom, launched two years ago, was a co-production by Penguin and System Simulations, the latter better known here for developing interactive guides for the British Museum and the London Transport Museum. Rock'n'Rom came on one disc yet carried a staggering £1,000 price-tag. While Rock'n'Rom boasts a wealth of fascinating information, which is easy enough to extract, it was an expensive reference tool just for radio stations and overpaid record executives.

Now released by System Simulations alone, the latest version, **Rock'n'Rom 2**, updates the listings to April last year. With a revised selling price of £400, it comes a little nearer to being afforded by pop music fanatics as much as radio and record bigwigs. The Oasis Interactive Songbook and Rock'n'Rom 2 can be classed as CD-Rom hits, but as far as misses go, they don't come much bigger than **The Music File**. This came out with a whimper, despite modestly claiming to be "the ultimate reference of UK rock and pop releases". It is, in reality, a lazy title with little appeal. The disc is produced in association with *Mojo* magazine, where, I suspect, the editor burst into tears on seeing the finished product. The Music File is a CD-Rom running on Windows 3.11 (not 3.1) or 95, developed by File Productions based in the Isle of Man. It is a kind of a glorified Internet shopping basket, allowing you to build up lists of records, identifying those you already own alongside those you intend to buy. The CD-Rom will also punch up a UK selection of mostly mail-order addresses, plus a few Internet sites, from which you can make record purchases with a credit card.

There is also a scatological database of artist Web-site links. The so-called bonus is a paltry, silent slide show mixing a few images from the magazine's covers with some of its features and a self-congratulatory puff. Finally, Vanessa-Mae straddles the divide of rock and pop with classical music. Her heavenly violin virtuosity can be heard on **The Classical Album 1**, from EMI Classics. This includes works by Bach, Brahms, Beethoven and Bruch. But it is not only an audio CD, for it can also be run on Windows 95 as a CD-Rom to play a video documentary on Vanessa-Mae. It features some of her TV and concert performances, as well as a question and answer section.

This week's Top Tip comes from Jeremy Singer of Liverpool: "To nostalgically recreate the noises made by an old Amstrad CPC or Sinclair ZX81 when loading a tape, blow into the lid from a Bic Crystal Medium Biro."

THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

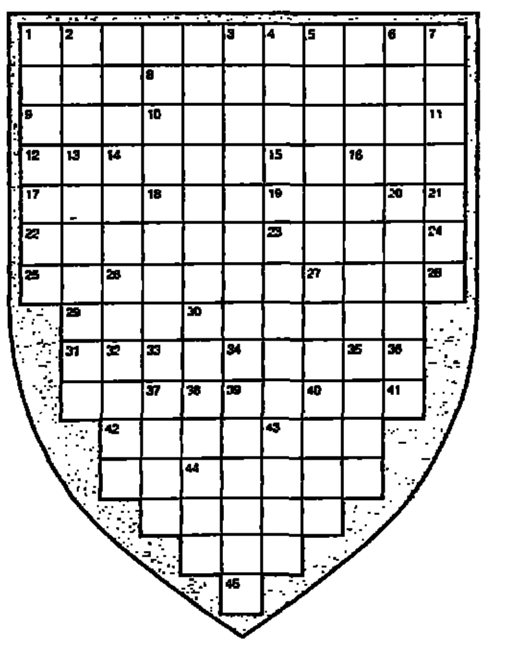
No 3415: Coat of Arms by Peeper

CLUES ARE of three types: 1. Normal: answers to be entered fess-wise or palewise, ie across or down; 2. Misprints: answers to be entered bendwise (normal or sinister) ie diagonally from chief to base. The definition in such a clue contains a misprint of one letter; the correct versions of the misprinted letters, in clue order, spell out Peeper's motto which should be entered below the diagram; 3. Printer's Devilry: answers to be entered in the shape of a chevron ie an inverted V, from dexter to sinister. A Printer's Devilry clue consists of a passage from which a hidden word (the answer) has been removed with subsequent changes to punctuation and/or spacing. Example: Clue: A void, facetious space traveller might say. Answer EASTER, the "undevilled" version being, Ave asteroid facetious space traveller might say.

Chambers 1993 is recommended but only gives partial information about one of the two possible methods by which some of the answers must be shortened. Peeper gleaned the missing information from Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Peeper's motto is found in the 3rd edition of the ODQ but is not in the 4th.

CLUES
1 Space with breadth needs obliteration to make gap for cannon (9)
1 Most extreme fogy could be so, always sporting ties (7)
1 Muscle of RC body getting disused cover lifted (8)
2 Spotted red state, for instance, with railway in confusion (10)
3 Warning spiteful woman about prayer (6)
3 Shelter accepts new one with new allegiance (7)
3 Colonel conceals army regulation name for parson (5)
4 Our copy's right on time (5)
5 Give endless rules for making slanging lines (8)
6 Ark not to weaken when time passes (4)
7 Pact to dance in trees wildly (7)
7 Deer-like animals scrap in bulrushes (8)
8 Wimp in unexpected riposte (4)
8 One dropping back a trifle takes most of meadow to be turfable (10)
9 One in deviant listener's circle? (7)
10 Indian laws: severe penalties are implied (5)
11 Resistance to sailor following one more, perhaps? (4)
12 As she was unwell singing performance was poor, died (7)
13 Orly is very good to the French (4)
14 Ken could be needed to make this round place for animals (4)
15 Nag about a lack of hair in Scots (4)
16 Follow one into oil plant (4)
17 One's to run with US intelligence in dis-tressed condition? (8)
18 Video spoilt by gape that's badly edited (5)
19 Will make strike action if mine's closed? (5)
20 News of educational journal in post (6)
21 Wandering into alps endlessly, a free climber? (8)
22 Lord and Lady, say, kind of square in common hats (6)
23 "Put on apron Don" — S. Albert Hall (5)
24 Tot upset by a drink — bit of wind — sigh (8)
25 Embellishes remnant so prettily (9)
25 Brazilian crew repair stave, having been obtained for that (6)
26 In whatever degree tax can be so (10)
27 Possible to deduct rubles as I'm rich (10)
28 Betake one into repose of death (5)
29 English strain that was sour (5)
30 Light chimney in light metal (7)
31 They'll pick up wish of French runner needing sun (6)
32 Ladies sit side-saddle, for men it's eat, ride horse (7)
33 Do better than teacher said with exam result? (7)
34 To me Times can be wrong, one can be let down (5)
35 Scot's happiness, one that's within his personality (4)
36 Congee taken as English lease is renewed (6, 2 words)
37 Cultured man I pushed into river is a South American (9)
38 See one in more antiquated picture (5)
39 Ship's steam generator with top removed (5)
40 Foot makes one go to a doctor (4)
41 Being careless merit a cluck (5)
42 Prowl about, organised on square (4)
43 Sheep wanting water in strips of ground (4)
44 In Notting Hill cars are held every year (5)
45 Modest about old knave's angry face showing this? (7)
45 Old contented sounds with energy which is got from gastropods (7)



MOTTO: _ _ _ _ _ _'_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

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C	O	S	M	E	T	I	C	V	T	L	I
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P	O	S	E	▨	S	E	N	T	I	T	O
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E	S	G	O	S	P	E	L	I	S	E	S
R	E	▨	S	T	E	D	O	N	▨	E	T

Solution to No 3412: Put Your Heads Together by Arcturus

NINE down answers had to "collaborate" in pairs by "putting their heads together" in the lights; i.e. their first letters were removed, the letter values (A=1, B=2, C=3, etc) being added together to form a new letter inserted at their point of intersection (shaded in the solution grid, although this was not required of solvers):

Answers - Lights
10a, 3d - PARAGONITE, BUNS - ARRAGONITE, URNS
14a, 2d - KOTO, CARGO-ONTO, ARGON
16a, 9d - ACHENE, SLIMIER - CHENET, LIMITER
20a, 18d - FAIL, LIONISE - ARIL, IRONISE
21a, 12d - KRATER, HOVERTRAIN - RASTER, OVERSTRAIN
22a, 15d - EPOSES, MANGIEST - POSERS, ANGRIEST
27a, 25d - TIN TERNE, JOIST - INTERNED, ODIST
31a, 26d - CRESTED, BRAG - REESTED, RAGE

The winner is B. Harris, Sanderstead, Surrey.

The five runners-up are R. Bell, Hampton Hill, Middlesex; J. Harries, Bromley, Kent; S. Perks, Claverly, Shropshire; S. Richards, Huddersfield; M. Wilson, Cardiff.

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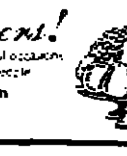

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ATTRACTIVE, Intelligent, solvent, widow 65+ presently living in Spain but willing to relocate, seeks kind, unattached gentleman 69+, car owner, preferably retired officer or professional gentleman for sincere friendship. Please Reply to Box No 5604 ✍

ATTRACTIVE Cheshire lady, tall, slim, blonde, 38 years young, loves scuba diving, tennis, ice skating & watching car racing. WLTM a very successful gentleman who has fun in his heart & romance in his soul. Photo please. Box No 5750 ☎ ✍

ATTRACTIVE, well educated French lady, N/S, 33, SW London wishes to meet a man of similar background 30-45 for a committed relationship to share her love of archaeology & travel. Photo to Box No 5785 ✍

ATTRACTIVE, Intelligent prof woman, late 40's, (London), enjoys travel, music, dancing, walking, country pubs etc. WLTM caring professional man 45-65 for friendship/outings. GSOH essential. Box No 5843 ✍

ATTRACTIVE 39 yr old professional, enjoys wining & dining, music, entertaining, squash & tennis. WLTM male early 40's looking for fun but a stable relationship. West London & photo appreciated. Box No 5567 ☎ ✍

ATTRACTIVE lady golfer (46) seeks that someone special to replace her divots & correct her wayward swing. South Bucks area. Photo to Box No 5772 ☎ ✍

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CARING, attractive, slim, stylish, confident, emotionally sound, N/S widow, own business & home, Dorset based. Varied interests including golf. WLTM tall, fit, well groomed, kind, good humoured, successful NS businessman/ professional 53-63 who would enjoy the company of an interesting, young 50's lady with GSOH who believes that life is more rewarding & fun with a partner. Photo please. Box 5790 ✍

CARING prof. Oriental lady, enjoys books, music, long walks, cooking seeks prof., educated man, genuinely unattached, 30-45. Race immaterial. Lincs, Notts, East Anglia. Reply to Box No 5829 ✍

CARING attractive, slim widow, 5'4, 40s, enjoys walking, concerts WLTM gentleman 5'8+, kind and gentle. Photo plse E Midlands/S Derby. Bx 5686 ✍

CHARMING professional Chinese female, well travelled with wide interests WLTM professional male 38-47 for long term relationship. Letter and photo appreciated London. Please Reply to Box No 5727 ☎ ✍

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

THE TIMES cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

CHEERFUL, warm, intelligent, attractive brunette graduate with many interests WLTM sociable, well educated professional single man 58-65, for long term relationship. Southeast. Reply to Box No 5832 ✍

CHOOSY? So are we. The UK's top unattached join The Executive Club of St James's

CONTINENTAL, attractive, stylish woman, 30, 5'8" London based, is looking for that special person to enjoy a great summer. If you have all the usual attributes and a few more, then I would like to hear from you - Photo appreciated. Box 5818 ✍

COSMOPOLITAN lady is looking for friendship with a sincere gentleman aged 70+ years London based. Reply Box 5704 ✍

DESIGNER lovely eyes, warm heart, quick wit, 50s, seeks intelligent creative man. Cambs/other Reply Box 5859 ☎ ✍

DEVON - Prof, secure, period home, politically committed (left!), actively support heritage, arts, community issues - But no-end-of day hugs! You're 55ish, N/S, tall, local & missing togetherness too. Box 5768 ✍

ELEGANT & Bubbly blonde warm personality, 39, WLTM professional male 35-46 to share the best things in life, sunshine, sailing, good food & wine, for lasting relationship, photo appreciated, Devon & London. Please Reply to Box No 5874

ENTERPRISING, attractive, slim brunette, 40, mother of 1, business of my own. I'm a good cook, enjoy wine & the good things in life. Need a genuine man, creative & stylish, 40-50 who can make me laugh. Wales based. Photo please. Box 5781 ✍

FRENCH Colonial background, browneyed blonde, special, 5'8" bright educated lady looking for tall, kind, fit, 50ish public school soulmate interested in either history of art, golf & travelling. Midlands/London. Photo please to Box No 5791 ✍

FUN loving attractive petite lady, intelligent, WLTM kind caring n/s gentleman mid to late 50s for the arts, dining out Photo appreciated London Box 5714 ☎ ✍

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

GENTLEMAN - too busy to find romance? We have over 500 ladies with style, all local in West Midlands/Warwickshire call Elite introductions - 7 days 0121 323 3314

GENUINE, attractive, slim, long haired beauty, 30s, WLTM similar professional male 30-45 for serious relationship. Photo plse London Bx 5744 ☎ ✍

GOOD-NATURED, affectionate Surrey lady, striking, N/S, lacks cosy cuddles in special relationship with distinguished, cultured, caring, tactile, gentleman (50-60) whose interests may include: golf, tennis, good music, opera, bridge, entertaining, sunshine, travel, with romantic adventure into the sunset. Photo/tel no. Box 5756 ✍

GREAT looking multilingual German, 40, seeks sophisticated interesting man Box 5747 ☎ ✍

HAMPSTEAD prof, 43, warm, sparkling, attractive, seeks extra special man. Box No 5797 ✍

HARROGATE, York & Yorkshire deserve the best? Executive Club call E.C. 07000 499 8833

INDEPENDENT, high powered single 30 yr old professional London based brunette, stylish & voluptuous seeks dynamic but caring male 30-40 for fun & possible romance. Photo essential. Reply to Box 5846 ☎ ✍

INTELLIGENT, 46 Oxfordshire lady interested in art & classical music seeks love & permanent relationship. Box No 5773 ☎ ✍

KENT/Bromley/SE London. Looking for that special person? Why make 100 calls when one will do. Call Elite Introductions 0181 658 7576

LADY not slim or pretty but with a big heart WLTM gentleman over 55 and 6' to accompany her to Concert at Luton Hoo 19th July. Perhaps life will start from there. Bedfordshire. Photo Please Box No 5732 ☎ ✍

NOT retired yet: WLTM respectable gentleman for companionship. Can even tolerate cricket. W. Mids or Somerset. Please Reply to Box No 5827 ✍

MOI French based lady, 40, very attractive, happy, warm active with interesting career and life style. Tol, charming, fun successful, cultivated, kind with time and desire to travel and enjoy international companionship. Letter and photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 5698 ✍

NOTTS/Leics/Lincs Success after success for gentlemen. Elite get closer .. Call now for free details 0115 937 6104

OUTDOOR girl, lively, good looking, loves blue skies, candlelight, jet travel. Seeks that special man 50-60 to perhaps share, golf, tennis travelling, painting or boating. East Midlands/E Anglia Bx 5823 ☎ ✍

PASSIONATELY Celtic, 32, I love life but have workaholic tendencies. Needs thoughtful, intelligent n/s soulmate 30-39 with some sparkle in your eye to bring out the best in us both. Herts. Letter with photo plse. Reply to Box No 5737 ✍

POSITIVE, creative, outgoing lady, dark haired, good looking, 43, Mids based, I've learned to be independent & capable but need a shoulder to lean on occasionally. Loves travel, the arts, architecture, design. Is looking for a man who knows how to cherish & be cherished. Photo please to Box No 5662 ✍

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STRIKING, dark, slim, independent, warm, witty educated, 37 yr old trainee consultant, single but not lonely. WLTM intelligent, humorous, caring, successful professional. Midlands based. Photo please to Box No 5751 ☎ ✍

STRIKING brunette, 40's, vivacious, creative seeks attractive businessman/professional 45-65 Wales/nearby. Photo please. Please Reply to Box No 5774 ✍

STUNNING, charming New Zealander, 40s, professional, warm and outgoing with panache. WLTM single, attractive, sociable male with GSOH who enjoys the best of life. London. Photo please. Reply Box 5729 ☎ ✍

STYLISH, petite, creative, caring, professional lady (46) seeks a man of substance, integrity, quality not quantity Letter & photo plse North West Bx 5719 ☎ ✍

SURREY Men (KT/TW/GU) for our extensive ladies membership call Mike at Close Encounters 01932 783165: open 7 days

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TLC needed for tactile, trim, London lawyer 42 on Sundays & fun days. Enjoys diving, sailing, cinema, eating out & romance. Photo ensures reply. Please Reply to Box No 5626 ☎ ✍

UNCOMPLICATED, solvent N/S, caring, attractive blonde, based in Tunbridge Wells, enjoys travelling, music, dancing, theatre. If you are 55+, financially secure & have similar interests, please reply with photo to Box 5764 ☎ ✍

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

WARM, attractive Southeast professional lady 60's, enjoys travel, garden, home, theatre WLTM tallish, easy going, kind, well educated, optimistic, fun loving, N/S gent 50-62. Photo please to Box No 5787 ✍

ZZZzzz Wake up! Close Encounters is open Saturday & Sunday Call free 0800 141 141

GENTLEMEN

ANDOVER/Salisbury. 25 mile radius. Only your kind of people at Elite Introductions 07000 781 981

ARYA VYSYA, US - MS graduate, software engineer, project manager, working in USA, Puparvasu, Leo. Age 25, 5'11", fair complexion. Girl should be of similar background, professional & career oriented. Please reply with horoscope. Box 5491 ✍

BACH, biomedical research, cinema, comedy, Hendrix, Miles Davis, modern dance, playing the violin, radio 4, travel, Zappa. These are some of my passions. I'm an articulate, attractive, left of centre, n/s, slim, tall, unattached, warm-hearted, witty man (youthful 40s). WLTM similar woman (26-39). London. Photo? Please Reply to Box No 5731 ☎ ✍

BORED with log fires, 6' sporty hunks, handsome lottery winners and all those tedious cliches. Get real!! We both want the same things (someone that loves and appreciates us for what we are and not what we imagine ourselves to be). If you aspire to good taste and have an appreciation of romance and perhaps a little eccentricity in life then this maybe the opportunity to achieve your ambitions. You're 20s or early 30s, slim and consider yourself extremely attractive and confident. As for me I'm a 45 year old thats never relinquished aesthetics and style with an inherited flair and stature (57), my passions include art, interesting restaurants, romantic Cities, the cinema and a rather avant garde sense of humour. So if your curiosity is aroused please reply with recent photograph Box 5869 ✍

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

GENTLEMEN

BERKS Oxon & Wilts Call Elite Introductions and take the first step towards the rest of your life 0500 003444: 7 days

BUSINESSMAN, 30's own company wishes to meet sincere slim lady for friendship & possible relationship. NorthWest. Photo please to Box No 5711 ☎ ✍

CHARISMATIC, creative, cultured 6 ft male seeking special, N/S, superbrained, skiing, sailing, swimming, sensual sylph, 35-40, who is into food, wine, music, communication, & people & has freedom & time to travel 10-20 weeks pa. Ecstatic love? An interdependent, intimate, intellectually equal relationship? A confident, enthusiastic company owner? If they are on your agenda, write (photo if possible) or phone. Essex/ London/ Home Counties. Box No 5702 ☎ ✍

CHRISTIAN man aged 35 likes sport, art and wildlife seeks like minded woman, 27-35 for serious relationship. London area. Please send photo to Box No 5852 ✍

COMPASSIONATE, caring widower, professional, 6 ft, early 60's, fit, active, healthy, GSOH, solvent. Likes outdoors, can be social animal too, bridge, chess, dancing, theatre, swimming, concerts, etc. Seeks fit, active lady, average height & weight, yet unique for me. Seven Bridge area. Will travel. Photo appreciated & returned. Box No 5755 ✍

CULTURED, 6'3, attractive international City based Company director, 42, humorous, sensitive and romantic loves music, theatre, cooking and travel. Seeks tall, attractive, intelligent professional woman 30-40, no young children to share life with. Central London Please Reply with recent photo to Box 5828 ☎ ✍

DIVORCED Suffolk fellow, homelover & world traveller WLTM N/S & footloose lady 45-60 to accompany him, home & away! Box 5705 ✍

E.C. the Executive Club of St James's, London: Brighton & York, 07000 499 8833

ECCENTRIC writer 70s gentle, kind, but 'self centred old goat' WLTM attractive, personable intelligent woman 45-65 for music, theatre, travel, companionship London based Bx 5843 ☎ ✍

GENTLEMAN 39 yrs, sales manager, separated, attractive, slim, well built & very fit, nice eyes, GSOH, warm, friendly, caring & romantic. Likes variety, music, walking, nights in & out. Seeks a lovely lady, 30-40 to be my best friend & more. Midlands. Photo plse. Box 5759 ☎ ✍

GENUINE blithe spirit (35-45) wraith-like, petite and funny, living London but ripe to travel sought by kind, loving, humorous, good-looking bachelor (54) with bases London and the Australian Bush and frequent work in between. Recent photo essential Reply Bx 5857 ☎ ✍

GENUINE, sensitive, caring, sporty, attractive (I'm told) man, 38, South Herts based seeks country-loving girl with similar attributes, 30+ for relaxed, active & loving partnership. Photo & letter please. Reply to Box No 5816

GOOD-LOOKING, young, 40, professional male, all own hair and teeth WLTM slim lady 30-40 for long fun loving relationship. Bournemouth Box 5872 ☎ ✍

HELP! Opera lover Sussex ex Army pilot, 40's, busy job, also sails, plays squash, cooks, solvent, WLTM caring lady. Please Reply to Box No 5748 ☎ ✍

HONEST, sincere, romantic 40's, fit, 6 ft, professional. Likes golf, tennis, holiday breaks. WLTM N/S 40's lady who shares same interests for romance. Photo guarantees reply. Wilts/Hants/Berks. Please Reply Box No 5441 ✍

HOW much more of your life are you prepared to waste, ready for the Executive Club yet? E.C. 07000 499 8833

INDEPENDANT, quiet, workaholic British guy of Indian origin WLTM a kind and caring lady for friendship/relationship Please Reply to Box No 5855 ☎ ✍

INTERNATIONAL businessman early 40's attractive, kind & considerate WLTM beautiful lady interested in Oriental culture to share life. London based. Photo plse. Box 5431 ✍

ITALOPHILE seeks arts/opera loving, slim, n/s, elegant 50 yr old lady for mutual gratification. Photo essential. London area. Reply to Box No 5865 ☎ ✍

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MALE, 40, 5'10", NS, Prof, based SE, loves travel, skiing, languages, theatre, arts, France, Italy, weekends in the country and the good things in life. Seeks tall, slim, (dark-haired), NS, prof, southern lady to settle down with, please send photo. Box No 5674 ✍

MANAGING Director of clothing co, tall, dark, attractive and affluent WLTM a woman no more than 45. Must love sport, travel and and all the good things in life preferably London based. Photo please. Reply Box 5682 ✍

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PERSONABLE, retired, divorced co director hoping to meet the lady of my dreams. Am extrovert, but passionate, loving, caring, read Times/ Telegraph, enjoy wit/intelligent conversation, don't suffer fools lightly but truly inside am big softie. Seeking lady young 40/65, N/S intelligent, attractive, smart, warm and passionate. Enjoys travel UK/Europe/USA not the Maldives, Nepal or Tibet! I have oceans of TLC & attention to give to the right "Juliet". "Don't let a problem become an excuse for not dreaming" to travel to the zenith of the world of l'amour. Recent, repeat recent photo & phone no. to Box No 5685 ✍

PROFESSIONAL male, mid 30s, seeks girl in her 20s or early 30s. Good amateur pianist and into classical music. London. Photo please to Box No 5856 ☎ ✍

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SENSITIVE Upper Class girl 20s/30s, n/s who would not normally reply sought by eligible, tall Oxbridge widower. Wife sadly died aged 34, daughter 15. Old enough to be your father but full of go. Listed house, Kent village. Distance unimportant. Total love, loyalty. Everybody would approve. Nobody need know how we met. Box No 5836 ☎ ✍

SEXY intelligent women seek intellectually stimulating unattached men. E.C. of course.

STEELEYE SPAN Fan, complete the following in not less than 12 words. I am the perfect companion for your Champagne Picnic at Gawsworth Hall because... Please reply box no 5873

SUCCESSFUL City professional, 42, slim, fit, attractive, well travelled, wide interests (tennis, skiing, cooking & theatre) seeks beautiful, intelligent lady 30-40, N/S for romantic relationship. London. Photo & phone no. apprec. Box No 5334 ☎ ✍

SUMMER Special - male, blonde & beautiful, witty & wise, successful at work, happier at play. Youthful appearance belies maturity while quiet nature conceals warmth and character. Still seeking lady with special ingredients. If you are under 35, beautiful, fun loving and caring, then please reply with photo and recipe. Midlands based. Box No 5812 ✍

SUMMER in the country? Caring, romantic guy in 40s, looks much younger, owns lovely old farmhouse. WLTM attractive woman in 30s. Kids are fine. Photo plse. West Country Box 5678 ☎ ✍

SWISS - Gerhard named, sunny nature, patient, sensitive, lively, energetic, versatile, thrifty but generous, with little responsibilities of the past. Patent agent, professionally involved, Basel based continuing, mid 40's. Interests: aesthetic subjects, countryside, history, classical music and the sixties, improvement English. An ideal woman appreciates harmony, diligence, spirit, domesticity, reliability, fidelity, share in problems and give pleasure, may complete of learn German, want to be an endeavoured English mentor, is vivacious, optimistic, contemplative, love-starved, with aura feminine and charming weak side, yearning for partnership; all possibilities for the future should be open. Please Reply to Box No 5661

TO LET: Semi-detached, Urbane, charismatic entrepreneur chauvinist, 59, WLTM mature lady with GSOH, legs & personality for long term occupancy. Londonbased. Photo plse Box 5780 ✍

VERY good looking, slim & fit professional male, 38, 5'11", successful in career but in need of attractive & intelligent soulmate to share all the good things in life. London/Surrey. Photo please. Box No 5769 ✍

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UNCOMPLICATED, easy going, genuine, professional male, late 40's well travelled & cosmopolitan, GSOH, 5'10", pleasant personality/looks. I enjoy most things but am open to new experiences. Seeks genuine caring positive female 35-50 with warm personality & nature to continue my explorations. NorthWest/ Cheshire/ Yorkshire. Box 5574 ☎ ✍

WEALTHY American entrepreneur, aged 38 in mint condition seeks slim, lovely lady age 20-30 to share lavish lifestyle. Do you enjoy shopping in Paris, New York & Rome, if so, contact me immediately. Photo appreciated. Reply to Box No 5688 ✍

WIDOWER 71, academic, semi-retired, bookish, slim, fit, active. Secluded dilapidated hillside cottage and garden. Seeks active, slim, educated lady 55-65 to start new life in lovely countryside. The best may yet to be, but there is much to do en route. No faint hearts please. All addressed letters with photo answered, and photos returned. Box 5597 ✍

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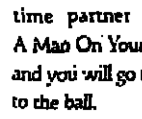

A MAN ON YOUR ARM

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Why this girl doesn't tell her friends what she does

Page 8

THE TIMES

CAR 97

What you get with some Jaguar and a bit of Tornado

Page 10

SATURDAY JUNE 21 1997

Ford has turned a kitten into a wildcat to add a coupé to its model range. **Stuart Birch** was impressed

Fun of a Fiesta, growl of a Puma

Ford Puma: the advantage of producing such an exciting car from the basis of a bread-and-butter model like the Fiesta is that the virtues of the original can be retained for times when excitement is not needed

Give a car a good name and it must live up to it. Ford is a master of the memorable name: the company that brought you the Popular, the Escort and the Ka also produced the Galaxy, Mustang and Capri — now it has come up with Puma for its new, Fiesta-based coupé, on sale next month at £14,550.

But can the mild-mannered pussycat that is Fiesta, with all the utilitarian connotations of the small hatchback, become a growly puma? It can.

Although beneath its smooth skin the Puma is 80 per cent Fiesta, it has been given just enough charisma, performance and handling competence to qualify for sports coupé status without giving insurance actuaries a fit of the vapours.

The Puma treads a precise path that takes it to a sector of the market ripe for development. The coupé has become important currency in the car world; they might not sell in large numbers but a coupé gives a manufacturer's model range a sporty appeal especially to the younger driver, who might not be so impressed by a souped-up saloon. Ford used to do very well adding sportiness to its smaller cars with the RS, for Rallye Sport models, but in the affluent 1990s potential buyers demand something more striking than the addition of a spoiler and body trim.

Ford reckons there are three key factors essential to success in that sector: great looks, good performance and fine detailed design to separate this car from the herd.

The Puma's looks are certainly distinctive, the performance from its newly developed 1.7-litre, 125bhp engine is vigorous, and the details, from distinctive headlamps to rounded rump, are refreshingly different. But there is more. Drive this car hard, and it proves that it is not just an image wagon with an evocative name: it delivers.

Ford vice-president Richard Parry-Jones has been a major force in the Puma's creation. A senior member of the company, he combines executive clout with great enthusiasm for the product and a high level of technological skill. All this shows in the way the Puma goes about its business.

Ford decided Bavaria had the right roads to make the point. So I drove the Puma flat out on the autobahn to see a couple of miles a minute with no drama. Then it was rapidly up a wet and winding mountain road to the accompaniment, at high revs, of a delightfully snarly engine note — the result of extensive analysis of what its potential customers want to hear, the sound is created by diligent tuning of the engine's induction system. To match all this, handling is safe and secure and ride exceptionally good.

The Fiesta, on which the Puma is based, is a very good car, but Ford has done wonders to extrapolate its ability, to provide a car which Parry-Jones sees as combining coupé styling with hot-hatch dynamics. The advantage of producing such an exciting car from the basis of a bread-and-butter model like the Fiesta is that the well-proven virtues of the original can be retained for those times when excitement is not needed. In town, the Puma is smooth and easy to drive. The engine is very flexible, with strong pulling power across its whole range, thanks to variable valve timing; the crisp, close-ratio gearchange may be satisfying to use, but this car is happy to potter.

Parry-Jones says Ford could have given the Puma up to 150bhp but decided that 125 was the right compromise for quick acceleration — 0-60 in about 8.8 seconds — fuel consumption that should average about 38mpg, good flexibility and that all-important insurance credibility; it has a low group 12E.

The Puma will carry four adults at a pinch but, in reality, is a roomy 2+2. The driving seat has power height adjustment, but the steering wheel is not adjustable. The sporty theme is emphasised inside by using machined aluminium — the trendy material for those who can't quite afford carbon fibre — for some elements of trim, including the gearlever knob.

The boot is something of a compromise, with a high sill which demands a fair amount of physical effort if you are loading anything heavy. Ford admits it would not please all Fiesta owners, but feel it's justified on aesthetic and body stiffness grounds.

The Puma comes as a single model, with one trim level. But it's well equipped with anti-lock brakes, driver's airbag, traction control, power steering, powered windows and mirrors and a comprehensive security system.

Air-conditioning is a very competive £350 extra, but there is no sun-roof option — that will be a dealer-fit accessory and will be the unsatisfactory lift-out glass type.

Ford sees the small coupé market growing in the next few years, and expects to sell about 5,000 Pumas — which are built in Germany — in its first full year. One of its rivals will be Vauxhall's attractive Tigra, but the Ford is far more practical.

The car is being launched in a blaze of publicity and some of the first owners are being offered a free day trying out the Puma on the track at Brands Hatch in Kent or Oulton Park in Cheshire. (Customers will not be driving their own Pumas, the company adds thoughtfully.) The day will include tuition from a top-class instructor on how to get the best out of the car.

A Puma roadshow is already underway with a silver car sporting blue underbody lighting and a video screen built into the nearside window stalking the "style conscious and young at heart" in major cities.

The Puma is likely to be bought by 25 to 35-year-olds, believes the company — and by people in their fifties who want a sporty car but not one that is too muscly.

This age group is targeted by Ford's advertising campaign, which is based on the 1960s movie *Bullitt*, set in San Francisco, which starred the late Steve McQueen and included a car chase that has become a cinema classic. For the television ad, clever technology has McQueen "driving" not his raucous V8 Mustang, but . . . a Puma.

Now, that really *is* a name to live up to.

FORD PUMA

Engine: Four-cylinder, 1.7-litre with variable valve timing, giving 125bhp at 6,300rpm.

Transmission: Five-speed close ratio.

Performance: 0-60mph in 8.8 secs, top speed 126mph.

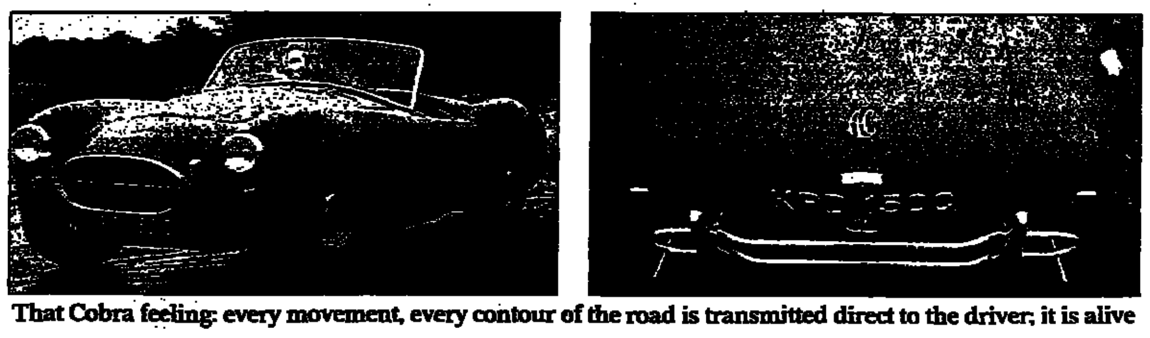
Economy: Combined cycle 38.2 mpg.

Equipment: ABS, driver's airbag, traction control, power steering, audio system.

Price: £14,550 (air-conditioning £350 extra).

. . . and the bite of the Cobra

Alan Copps fulfils a dream as he drives one of the most beautiful British roadsters to Le Mans



That Cobra feeling: every movement, every contour of the road is transmitted direct to the driver; it is alive

Rain was lashing down, we didn't know where we were and the wipers were completely ineffective. But it was worth it for the noise alone.

I had taken the wheel of an AC Cobra for the first time just before the rain began on the way to Le Mans. I was well aware of its reputation: "The fiercest sportscar of the 1960s. The very name is enough to send most enthusiasts into nostalgic raptures," said one recent description.

But a traffic jam in the wet was no place to find out about this car, born when American Carroll Shelby had the inspiration to shoehorn a big Ford V8 engine into the AC Ace, one of the most beautiful of British 1950s roadsters.

The only thing to do was take a side road at the first possible opportunity, let the burble of the 5-litre engine build into a satisfying roar and hope that the map was good enough to re-establish our route later.

I'd wanted to drive a Cobra ever since, as a teenager too young to drive, I had watched the unpainted bodies being wheeled across the road in the unlikely picturesque setting of Thames Ditton, the Surrey village where the AC factory straddled the main street.

You don't have to drive very long to understand the Cobra mystique: the combination of power and a lightweight chassis is exhilirating even when you're being ultra cautious in the rain. At times it felt fast enough to dodge the raindrops; I knew it wasn't, but in a car such as this sensation is at least as important as performance. The following day in the dry the power simply swept the car into motion, the steering went light with acceleration and both ends skipped and hopped on uneven corners.

No wonder the car has become a cult: if you find modern cars bland, cushioned and air-conditioned cocoons and you like the "feel" of driving it would be hard to beat. Every movement, every contour of the road is transmitted direct to the driver; it is alive.

I was enjoying this personal bit of nostalgia as part of an exercise in corporate nostalgia by Ford who had sent the Cobra and a road-going GT40 to join the Royal Sun Alliance Cavalcade, the annual convoy of classics connected with the 24-hour race, which drives from London to Le Mans and tours the circuit a few hours before the race begins to one of the biggest cheers of the weekend.

Led by a string of Bentleys, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the marque's first win at Le Mans, the demonstration laps began with an old-fashioned Le Mans start, in which drivers ran across the track and jumped into cars before haring off after a pace car. In the Cobra it would have been easy, but I'd switched to the GT40 for the track and getting through the doors and squeezing my legs under the scuttle was no mean feat.

Once I'd disentangled my trouser leg from the gearstick we tore off in pursuit of the procession. But at least a late start gave me a chance to hit 130mph on the Mulsanne straight — a potent reminder in the week of the Puma's launch that Ford has a record for producing sporty cars.

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So I 'ired this Transit, right? Everyone gives me a wide berf and it did the job a treat, squire . . . I'd better take another couple of aspirin and lie down

Yes, I was that white van driver

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION

Peter Barnard

"Cor blimey guv'nor, look at that geezer in the Astra, wassee fink 'e's playin at [winds down window]? 'Ere, wotcha playin' at, ya moron, ya wanna take the clockwork gear outa that motor and fit it wiv an engine, I 'aven't got all day mate [throws polysterene cup out of window followed by Mars bar wrapper]. What a plonker . . ."

The above paragraph was written before I took two aspirin and had a lie down. I feel much better now, but I may yet have to write to Dr Dashboard, *Car 97's* resident MD (Doctor of Motoring), to effect a full recovery from the experience that I underwent this week.

First, some context. Regular readers may recall white van syndrome, an affliction first discussed in this column after it had been identified by my colleague Tim Austin, who is not a car but a journalist on this newspaper.

Austin had noticed that the drivers of white vans appeared to have a penchant for driving like lunatics. They seemed, for example, to steer with their knees, a skill developed as a consequence of driving with a cup of tea in one hand while the other made assorted gestures, none commonly associated with Sir Simon Rattle.

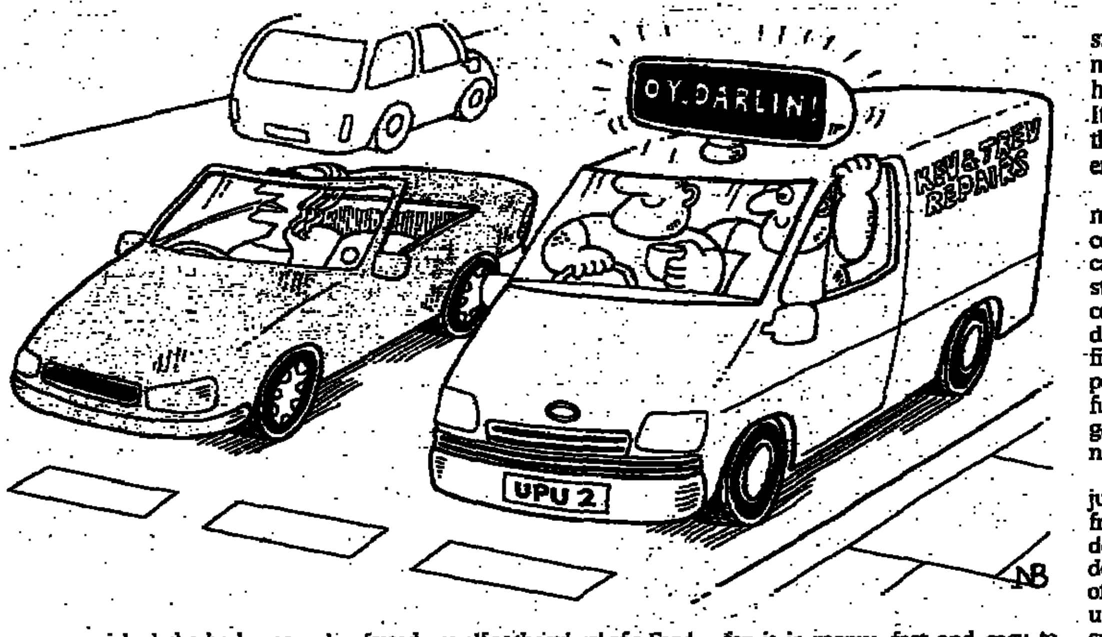
So I wrote about white van syndrome, wondering if the vans brought on the behaviour or people inclined to such behaviour were attracted to white vans. You wrote in your hundreds. You produced long theoretical tracts, as if hoping for a degree in white van syndrome.

You sent photographs of white vans parked at crazy angles halfway up people's gardens and in front of emergency exits. Some of you said the syndrome was not to do with the colour of the vans, and attested to examples of red and blue vans being driven as if by suicide bombers trained in Iran.

A woman reader who drives a sports car with the top down in summer wished she had a pound for every leering male who had leant out of a van beside her at traffic junctions offering anatomical speculation as to the relationship between her legs and other parts of her body. All seemed to think her name was Darlin'.

The excitement eventually died down. Until this week, when I found myself at the wheel of a Ford Transit, colour: white. Honest, I didn't mean it. It was all to do with a daughter and her flatmate moving from one flat to another, meaning that I was required to shift one or two items in and one or two items out.

I soon discovered why the Transit enjoys near-legendary status, for it is roomy, fast and easy to drive. It is also intimidating: there is no question of having to give way to other drivers, because you have no sooner considered doing so than the approaching driver is climbing the hedge and waving a white flag. A Transit might as well be a Sherman tank for all the resistance it encounters.



At one point I slowed then stopped to let a car cross in front of me, but the driver could not believe his eyes. A white van! Giving way! It was a mirage. The driver sat on the crown of the road and in the end I had to carry on past him.

The most revealing thing was not the behaviour of others but the condition of the Transit's cab. I carried out an inventory before starting the journey. A crisp bag containing one crisp under the driver's seat; the filter tips from five cigarettes; part of, yes, a polysterene cup, as if bitten off in fury; a piece of string tied to the gear lever; a matchbox containing no matches.

Above all, one could have conjured a whole van-life from the front parcel shelf. It looked as if a dozen takeaway curries had been deposited upon it without benefit of plates. Something decidedly ugly had congealed above the speedometer housing and was slowly turning into pencillin. Stains ran this way and that, widening and narrowing, like an outline of the Mekong Delta.

You will have guessed that I did not hire this Transit from Hertz, but hey, needs must. And it did the job a treat, squire. Oops, I must take another aspirin.

Ian Morton on car advertising budgets — and that runaway French winner

Nicole and Papa reflect success

Nicole and Papa are back on our television screens — their seventh series extolling the desirability of the Renault Clio.

Renault's view is: Don't change a winning formula. The adverts, regularly cited by industry researchers as the most readily remembered by the public, have helped make the Clio the top-selling imported car in the British market and tenth best-seller overall.

Yet in May the Renault Megane pushed the Clio out of that tenth slot, the public wooed by a very different sort of television ad approach. As Nicole and Papa hurry back in support of the Clio and simultaneously the campaign for the Scenic version of the Megane gets into its stride, media connoisseurs look forward to an interesting bit of sibling rivalry between the two ranges.

Whatever happens the winners in every motor marketing battle will be the media. According to confidential industry figures, over the 15 months from January last year to the end of March this year (the latest meaningfully lengthy period for which totals have been calculated) carmakers poured more than £145 million into all ad campaigns — £345,238 a day — about 12 per cent up on the preceding period.

Biggest target audience was the newspaper and magazine reader — £71.6 million of advertising — and the print media remained the one most consistently used by all. Television viewers watched the results of £64.2 million worth of ad investment, motorists passed £6 million in roadside posters and listened to £2.6 million of radio ads. Cinema audiences faced less than £1 million of bombardment.

Top of the British ad league was Ford, which invested more than £19 million in its battle to stay top of the sales charts. Advertising cost the company £38.61 for each car it sold, while Ford's outlay was nearly double that of closest rival Vauxhall and not such good value per sale. Vauxhall's expenditure was £10.8 million, a rate of £29.95 per registration. Rover Group fell between them at £35.57 per sale.

With bills totalling more than £11 million, Renault was second-biggest media spender in Britain. In view of the company's comparatively modest 6.4 per cent UK market share, the level of advertising was on the high side at £64.40 per car, but other French manufacturers invested quite heartily too, with Peugeot spending at a rate of £51.22 per car and Citroën at £62.70.

Fiat felt it had a lot to say about its refreshed ranges and spent £79.08 per car in doing so, but the German contingent disbursed much more modestly, and at £21 a car BMW was particularly efficient in view of the prices of its models.

It is certainly less expensive to sustain a reputation than to create one, and newcomers spent heavily to become known. Korean entrant Daewoo demonstrated the bread-upon-waters principle by spending £149.77 per registration, while Chrysler laid out £312.84 per vehicle to re-establish its name here.

Getting a name back into respectable circulation after a lapse can be even more expensive, as Alfa Romeo discovered, investing £323.19 per registration to present its aggressive new face to the UK market. Breaking new ground can be pricier still: biggest spender per unit over the period was Mitsubishi, disbursing £329.74 per registration as it promoted Carisma, its new European-built range from the Netherlands.

Meanwhile, Nicole and Papa have broken ad industry records. Marketing experts expect an average of 42 per cent of adults to become aware of a TV campaign for any type of car, and not all can remember accurately the make or model that was featured.

But surveys show that by contrast, 89 per cent of adults are aware of the Nicole and Papa ads, 80 per cent link them with Renault and 78 per cent remember that they feature the Clio. These are levels of awareness envied by every other carmaker, and have helped to hoist the reputation of Renault UK's London-based agency Publicis — and UK advertising generally — to the top of the creative tree.

Renault's "Parallel Lives" campaign: Nicole and Papa have achieved levels of consumer awareness for the Clio envied by other carmakers

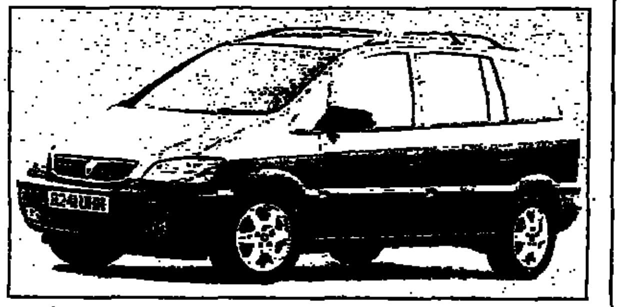
ZAFIRA JOINS THE PURSUIT OF THE SCENIC

■ EVERYBODY wants one. In the wake of the success of Renault's Megane Scenic — European Car of the Year — comes another mini people-mover from Vauxhall, *writes Kevin Eason.*

This week the company announced the Zafira, a seven-seater built on the chassis of the trusty Astra, which will compete directly with the Scenic and a version coming shortly from Ford, being built at Halewood on Merseyside.

But don't hold your breath because Vauxhall says its mini-MPV will not be on sale until 1999, by which time the Scenic will not only have had time to become the market best-seller but probably go through a facelift too.

The trick is to put a tall body on to a short chassis, so the Zafira is only 14ft 2ins long, about the same as the current Astra estate, but stands 5ft 5ins high for better all-round visibility. Little will change under the bonnet, with Vauxhall's 16-valve, 1.6-litre or the 2-litre direct injection diesel providing the power. Expect it to compete on price with the Scenic's £12,995-£16,595.



Zafira: announced, but will not be on sale until 1999

WHO SPENDS MOST PER CAR

MITSUBISHI (£7.016m)	£329.74
ALFA ROMEO (£2.268m)	£323.19
CHRYSLER (£4.665m)	£312.84
JAGUAR (£1.878m)	£167.77
DAEWOO (£3.897m)	£149.77
SAAB (£2.899m)	£144.23
VOLVO (£5.323m)	£120.25
HYUNDAI (£2.905m)	£118.04
FIAT (£8.499m)	£79.88
MAZDA (£2.479m)	£77.80
AUDI (£3.058m)	£74.44
HONDA (£4.689m)	£74.22
NISSAN (£8.419m)	£72.28
TOYOTA (£5.213m)	£65.72
RENAULT (£11.14m)	£64.40
CITROEN (£6.448m)	£62.70
VOLKSWAGEN (£8.199m)	£57.75
PEUGEOT (£9.992m)	£51.22
FORD (£19.099 million)	£38.61
ROVER (£9.836m)	£35.57
VAUXHALL (£10.799m)	£29.95
MERCEDES (£1.345m)	£28.72
BMW (£1.550m)	£21.02

NEWS IN BRIEF

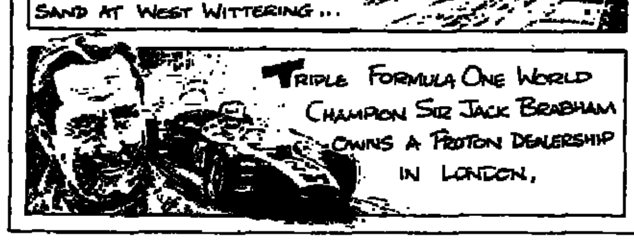
■ SUZUKI GB has recalled its £8,000 sporty TL1000S motorcyle for the fitting of a steering damper because of concern about its handling. The 150mph bike was introduced in February, since when two riders have been involved in fatal accidents. A company spokesman denied that the recall was an admission of a defect: "We are simply responding to some concerns and are providing the steering damper as a performance enhancement. Any owner who is worried about the rotary damper can return the bike to a dealer, who will look at it free of charge."

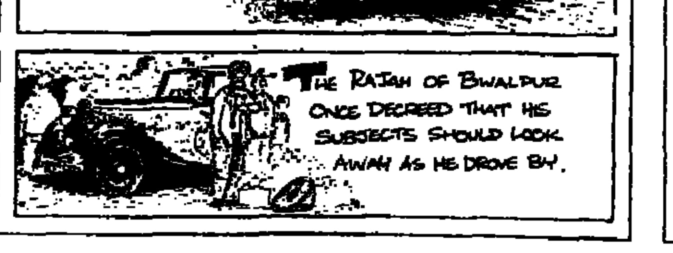
■ TIM Henman did not have to wait like the rest of the Mercedes enthusiasts desperate to get their hands on the natty new SLK. Waiting lists stretch up to two years for the car, much-praised for its styling and fun. But Britain's top tennis player has signed a two-year sponsorship deal with the company — and gets a new SLK roadster as part of the deal. In return, look for the three-pointed star on Henman's shirt when Wimbledon gets under way. Apparently, Tim is a Mercedes enthusiast — who wouldn't be with a free SLK on offer?

■ BMWs are such a favourite with thieves in Mexico that the company is offering £29,000 security conversions on 3-series cars. The conversions make a 328i up to 550lbs heavier than the standard car, with the windscreen up to three-quarters of an inch thick, an inch-thick rear window and special tyres that can run when flat.

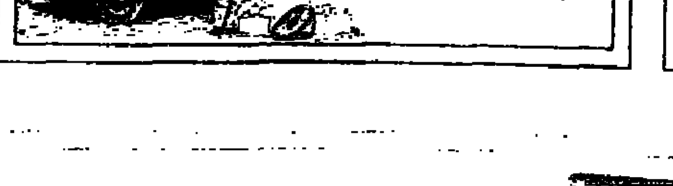
■ BARONESS Hayman, the Government's Transport Minister in the Lords, has not entirely embraced at least one alternative means of transport to ease Britain's appalling congestion problems. She has promised her two sons £1,000 each when they are 21 — provided they do not smoke or take up riding a motorcycle. As one is 18 and the other 20, payout time is on its way . . . though the boys were obviously never seen in the school bike sheds.

AUTOFAX by David Long and Les Evans


THE R-TYPE ENGINE WHICH BROKE EVERY WORLD LAND WATER AND AIR SPEED RECORD WAS FIRST SKETCHED BY SIR HENRY ROLLS USING A WALKING STICK IN THE SAND AT WEST WITTERING ...


ALFA ROMEO WON ELEVEN MILLE MIGLIAS AND CAME SECOND ANOTHER ELEVEN TIMES ...

TRIPLE FORMULA ONE WORLD CHAMPION SIR JACK BRABHAM OWNS A PROTON DEALERSHIP IN LONDON.


THE RAJAH OF BHALPUR ONCE DECREED THAT HIS SUBJECTS SHOULD LOOK AWAY AS HE DROVE BY.

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● **LONDON**
A1209 *Bethnal Green* Road. Long-term roadworks between Vallence Road and Cambridge Heath Road.
A11 Leytonstone. Major roadworks with lane closures at A12 roundabout.
A4 Pall Mall. Roadworks on westbound carriageway at King Street and Waterloo Place.
A302 Westminster. Roadworks on Bridge Street by Parliament Square.
A306 Hammersmith Bridge. Closed both ways to general traffic for structural works.
A406 Upper Edmonton. Major roadworks on Angel Road (North Circular) over Lea Valley viaduct.
A4 South Kensington. Major roadworks on Cromwell Road. Regular delays from Earls Court or beyond.
B317 West Kensington. North End Road closed northbound from A4 to A315, with one-way traffic southbound. Edith Road to Hammersmith Road.

● **SOUTH-EAST**
M40 Buckinghamshire. Long-term roadworks with contraflow between junctions 1a (M25) and 3 (Wycombe East).
A127 Southend. Roadworks on Victoria Avenue at junction with Caernarvon Road.
A41 Watford. Lane closures eastbound on North Western Avenue from Hunton Bridge roundabout to Leavesden Green interchange.
M20 junction 4, West Malling, Kent. Long-term works for erection of traffic signals on the slip roads and roundabout. Various lane closures.
M40 Oxfordshire. Resurfacing work between Watlington and Oxford. Drivers heading to junction 8 of the M40 from Oxford are advised to use A40 and A418.
M25 junctions 8-10, Surrey. Restrictions and lane closures both ways between Reigate and A3.

● **SOUTH-WEST**
B4051 Bristol. Ashley Road, Saint Pauls. Temporary lights at junction with Sussex Place.
M5 junctions 18-19, Bristol. Contraflow across Avonmouth Bridge with 50mph limit.
A40 Cheltenham, Gloucestershire. Temporary lights for roadworks on Old Bath Road.
A3088 near Yeovil. Cartgate Link Road closed.
A36 Limpley Stoke, Wiltshire. Temporary lights on Warminster Road.

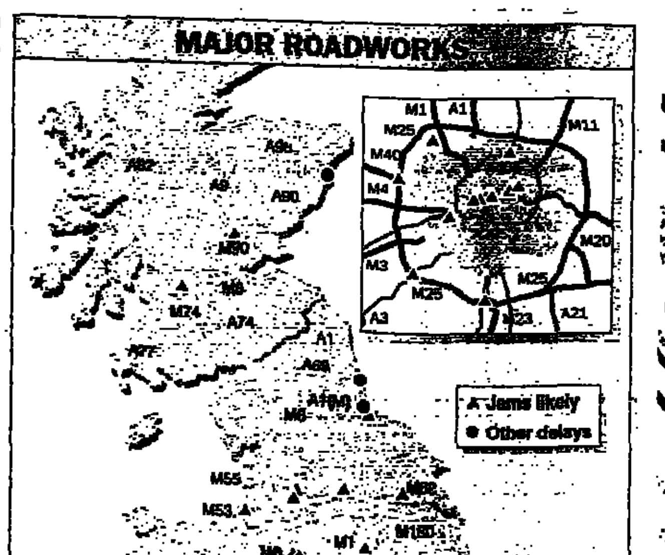
MIDLANDS AND EAST ANGLIA
A1 Alconbury, Cambridgeshire. Construction work with contraflow and lane closures.
A1 Peterborough. Works at *Haddon interchange* with repairs to the A1M.
A6 Lockington, Leicestershire. Long-term roadworks between M1 junction 24 and Sawley Island.
A1074 Norwich. Narrow lanes eastbound on Dereham Road.
A52 Beeston. Major roadworks on Derby Road. Delays between Sherwin Arms and Priory roundabouts.
A500 Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. Contraflow on The Queensway (D road), with only one lane open each way between Talke and Porthill.
A50 Stoke on Trent. Major construction work at Meir.

● **NORTH**
A689 between A19 and A1185, north of Middlesbrough at Wolviston, Durham, reduced to one lane.
M62 East Riding. Reduced to one lane between Howden and North Cave with 50mph limit.
Blackley, Greater Manchester. Major roadworks at junction of Rochdale Road, Victoria Avenue and Manchester New Road.
A663 Chadderton. Contraflow on Broadway near Foxdenton Lane.
A567 Bootle. Stanley Road closed northbound between Merton Road and The Strand.
A19 North Yorkshire. Major roadworks with two lanes each way between Thornaby-on-Tees and Billingham. Only one lane on some slip roads. 50mph limit.
M1 West Yorkshire. Major roadworks continue around Leeds junction with lane closures and speed restrictions. Delays on M1, M621 and Dewsbury Road.
A1058 Tyne and Wear. Cradlewell bypass down to one lane each way.

● **SCOTLAND**
M8/M898 Renfrewshire. Erskine Spur exit slip closed, as is the exit slip from M898 to M8 westbound.
A726 East Renfrewshire. Works and temporary lights on Clarkston Toll. Delays on all approaches.

● **WALES**
A470 Llandinam, Powys. Temporary lights for roadworks.
A48 Carmarthen. Lane closures at Pensarn roundabout, also on the A484, for roadworks.
A449 Monmouthshire. Roadworks between Usk Junction and M4 junction 24 Newport. Expect long delays at times.
A487 Dinas. Water main repairs.
A470 Llandinam. Temporary lights for roadworks.
A58 Perth. Lane restrictions on Dundee Road from Queens Bridge to Island View.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



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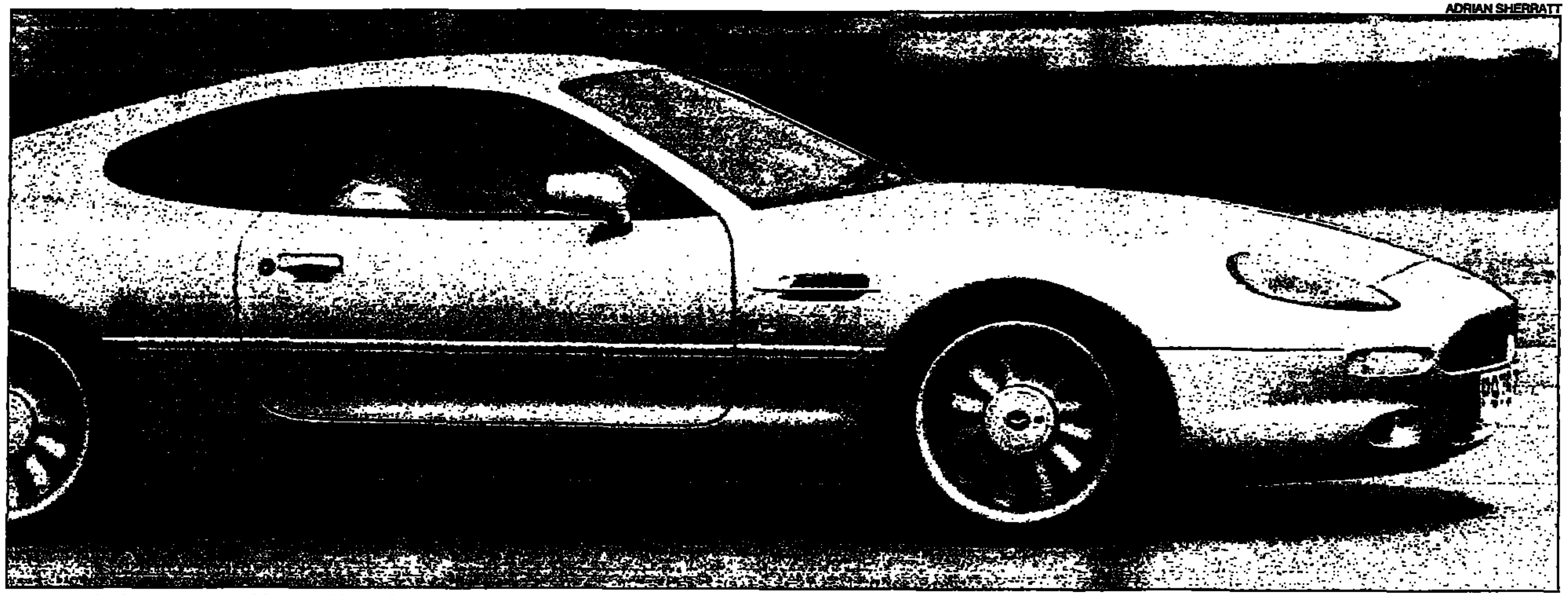
هكذا من الاصل

GOODWOOD FESTIVAL OF SPEED: A WEEKEND OF ELECTRIFYING MOTORSPORT ACTION

Motoring masterclass where the legendary aces raced

Vaughan Freeman learns a lot about his driving skills on the famous circuit

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Freeman in the DB7: "Matching Gethin and Goodwood to an Aston Martin is like hitching a ride back in time for a taste of what it must have been like to race in the heyday of F1"

The Goodwood circuit is among the most famous in the world and has changed little since 1965 when Jim Clark won the last Formula One race to be held there.

Great Formula One names such as Fangio, Stewart, Moss and Hawthorn all raced on the 2.4-mile circuit in one of the most picturesque parts of Sussex.

Opened on a disused airfield in 1948, the circuit thrived and was one of the most popular with drivers for the warmth of its welcome and its *lush setting. In the Sixties* though, a series of cruel accidents struck: in 1962, Stirling Moss almost lost his life there when he crashed. He was in a coma for weeks and never raced again. Four years later, Bruce McLaren was killed *while testing his CanAm.*

But today, the enthusiasm of Lord March has renovated the house and rejuvenated it as a place for racing again. Today sees the start of the Goodwood Festival of Speed when enthusiasts get the chance to see cars *and drivers who are among* the legends of motorsport.

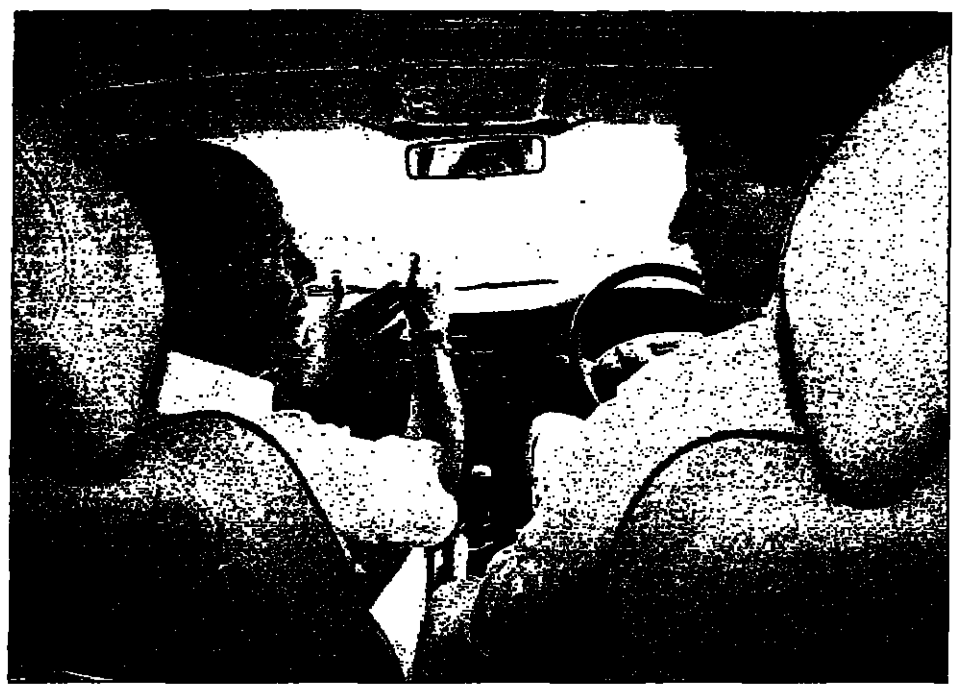
But now Lord March plans to go further and reopen the circuit, which has only been used for demonstration drives and his private use, for historic racing, which will evoke *memories of the greatest days* of motor sport when drivers duelled wheel to wheel and were personalities who were close to their fans.

Drivers like Peter Gethin, one of the unsung names in British motorsport, who knows every inch of the circuit. The man who won the fastest ever grand prix runs his own school there. Matching Gethin and Goodwood to an Aston Martin *is like hitching a ride* back in time for a taste of what it must have been like to race in the heyday of F1.

His driving courses are open to corporate as well as to *individual drivers and mix* and match instruction on the road as well as on the Goodwood circuit.

The day starts, not flat out down Goodwood's Lavant Straight but in the circuit classroom with instructor Jem *Ballantyne. Here we chat* about the sort of driving I do, any crashes (none) in recent years, any speeding tickets (well, it wasn't my fault), and other matters relating to my style of driving.

Ballantyne says: "We get *Aston drivers down here and* lots of Ferrari drivers, what you might call classic high performance car owners, but every modern car is capable of 100mph, which only 15 years ago or so would have earned it a High Performance tag. The *aim is to reduce your chances* of being involved in an accident. Remember, a man has a one in 250 chance of dying in a *road accident during his driving* lifetime. For a woman it is one chance in 850."



"Any feeling of confidence is shattered when Gethin points out where Moss almost died"

Now it is time to drive — well, almost. First, I have to read a number plate three times further away than the 67ft stipulated in the driving *test. Then we look over the* DB7, checking petrol, oil, water, electrics and rubber (the tyres). This check, says Ballan*tyne, should be done daily,* weekly at the very least.

Out on the road, Ballantyne sits quietly while I drive. Then come the questions: What did that sign mean? Was that dog on a lead? Were the front wheels of that parked car *turned and rolling ready to* move off? I am marked down for poor use of mirrors, shallow observation and overuse *of gears and am told to repeat:* "Brakes to slow, gears to go."

After lunch, it is trackside with Gethin. He drives us round in his own Volvo T5, showing the cones that mark the braking and turning in points. After half-a-dozen laps I take over. Any feeling of confidence is shattered when Gethin points out where Stirling Moss almost died. If Moss could not master Goodwood, how can I?

At last I am at the wheel of the Aston, a DB7. I feign a relaxed air as I try to remember it all: brake, brakes off, turn in, power on. Brake in straight lines, don't brake and turn, do not accelerate too soon through corners, keep it smooth.

By the end, Gethin's sense of humour is firmly intact as he says: "You managed all the corners perfectly — however, not all on the same lap."

But how can circuit driving make you safer on the road? "On the circuit we are showing the lines, the gears needed for each corner, the turn-in points and exit points of each corner," Gethin says. "The idea is the same for driving on the road, to keep it as smooth and as balanced as possible. Try to imagine that you have a box of eggs on the bonnet and every time you brake hard or jerk the car they will fall off."

A week later, my "end of *term" reports arrived. Gethin* writes, in what I insist on taking as a compliment: "At no time was I frightened by Vaughan." My report from Ballantyne tells me I must concentrate harder and improve my observation of what is going on all around me.

'Try to imagine that you have a box of eggs on the bonnet'

PETER GETHIN

Despite the "must try harder" summary, it has been a great day. The Gethin courses *help to cut company car fleet* accidents by up to 60 per cent and keeping up a mental commentary is one way of improving your concentration. They are also great fun.

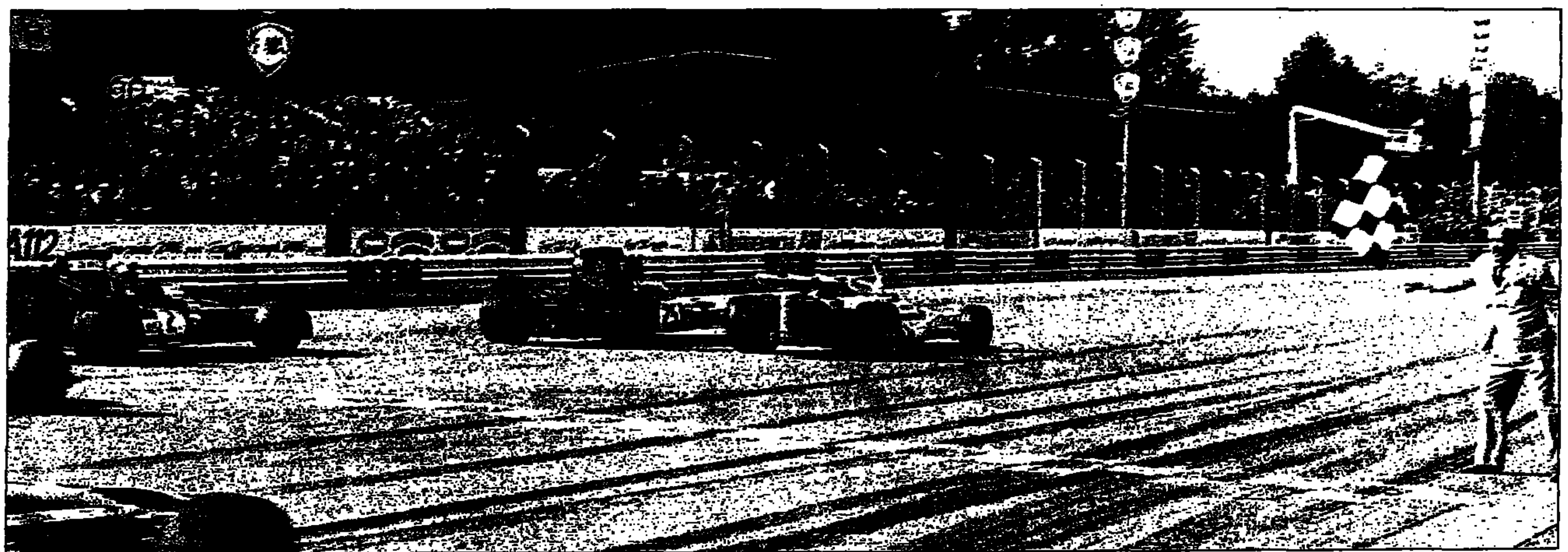
Aston Martin and Ferrari are among the manufacturers who now encourage their customers to complete the Gethin roadcraft course, not only to help them drive more safely, but also so that they can enjoy their cars more — and that does not mean blasting racer-style through every corner.

Aston Martin is even encouraging buyers of their used, or what Aston Martin prefers to call quaintly "Previously Treasured" cars, as well as of new cars, to take the course. Spokesman Bill Donnelly, says: "Although this facility has always been available to customers of new Aston Martins, we believe that the majority of purchasers of previously treasured Aston Martins will be coming to the marque for the first time.

"We and our dealers do everything possible to ensure *the fitness and pedigree of the* car, and we felt it appropriate to assist our customers to hone their driving skills."

If this is a way to hone driving skills, then every driver should take the chance. Driving a fast car around a *circuit with the history of* Goodwood is not an experience to miss. You almost feel the presence of the legendary racers.

- *Peter Gethin Driving Courses, Goodwood Motor Circuit, Chichester, West Sussex, PO18 OPH. Tel: 01243 778118.*



It was a damned close-run thing: Gethin takes the chequered flag at Monza in the blink of an eye with Peterson, Cevert and Hailwood all breathing down his exhaust pipe

SPLIT-SECOND HISTORY

Grand prix triumph as close as it gets

■ A WIN by just one hundredth of a second with four cars dashing for the line in the 1971 Italian Grand Prix at Monza is as close as it gets. Peter Gethin will go down in history for that victory in his BRM, which was also the fastest Formula One race on record, with an average speed of about 150mph, *writes Kevin Eason.*

It was not just the finish but the remarkable line-up of star drivers Gethin beat to record his only grand prix victory: Ronnie Peterson, François Cevert and Mike Hailwood were breathing down Gethin's exhaust pipe as he punched the air in jubilation.

Further down the field were Emerson Fittipaldi, Graham Hill and Chris Amon, while a young chap called Jackie Stewart failed to finish that day but went on to win the world championship for Tyrrell-Ford that season.

Gethin, now 57, remains largely unknown in the pantheon of British grand prix drivers, but he enjoyed an enviable record in all forms of motorsport, moving up from a successful career in Formula 5000 to F1 when he joined the McLaren team after the death of Bruce McLaren. From McLaren, he went on to BRM before going back to F5000, then retiring in 1977.

Harrier, Tornado, Red Arrows . . . and the cars

Something for all the family on the ground or in the air

TONY WHITE

Lord March, owner of Goodwood House and motorsport fanatic, with a Porsche Carrera GT beside the hillclimb track

Motor racing stars past and present will be out in force *today as the* action begins in earnest on the second day of the Festival of Speed. *Tony Dawe writes.* The event also offers activities for spectators of all ages on "Family Day."

On the 1.16-mile course, winding past Goodwood House and uphill through the trees to the Top Paddock, 160 of the world's greatest racing cars and motorbikes will be practising for tomorrow's events, watched over by Lord March, owner of the historic house and motorsport fanatic.

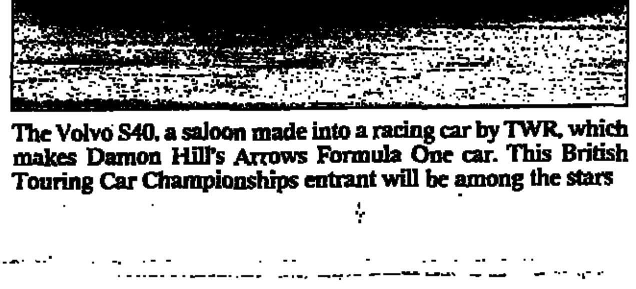
Reflecting this year's theme, "*Decades of Power*", *they* will include grand prix cars and formidable machines from the Canadian-American (CanAm) Challenge Cup series, driven by legendary names such as Stirling Moss, John Surtees, Emerson Fittipaldi and current *Formula One stars*, Johnny Herbert and Eddie Irvine.

In the Molecomb activity field, visitors will be able to drive off-road vehicles and dune buggies or ride in a Chieftain tank and amphibious troop carrier, while overhead an RAF Harrier and RAF Tornado will perform their routines. Among the displays on the Sussex Downs site is a special exhibition sponsored by *Car 97* to mark Ferrari's 50th birthday.

Tomorrow is "The Garden Party of the Gods", emphasising how the Festival has taken its place in the British summer season, nestling neatly between Royal Ascot and Wimbledon.

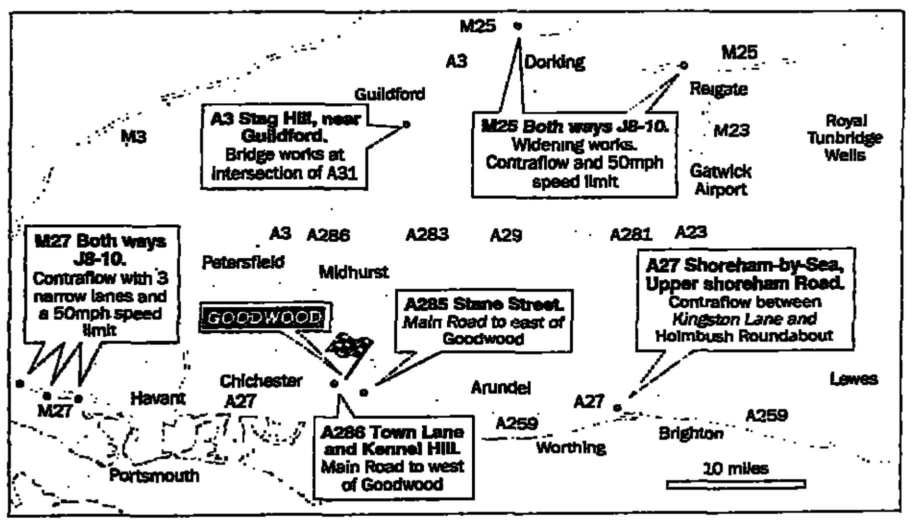
Events on the track, where spectator facilities have been improved with new grandstands and more raised viewing, will be the centre of attraction, but the stylish exhibitions in the superb setting will play their part in adding to the atmosphere.

In the sky, the RAC's new airship, *The Spirit of Mobility, will move sedately over the* Downs, filming the event and providing guidance on the road conditions outside, while the Red Arrows will fly past at more devastating speed.



The Volvo S40, a saloon made into a racing car by TWR, which makes Damon Hill's Arrows Formula One car. This British Touring Car Championships entrant will be among the stars

RAC'S GUIDE TO GETTING THERE


M25
A3
Dorking
M25
Reigate
Guildford
M3
A3 Stag Hill, near Guildford. Bridge works at intersection of A31
M25 Both ways J8-10. Widening works. Contraflow and 50mph speed limit
M23
Royal Tunbridge Wells
Gatwick Airport
A3
A286
A283
A29
A281
A23
M27 Both ways J8-10. Contraflow with 3 narrow lanes and a 50mph speed limit
Petersfield
Midhurst
GOODWOOD
A285 Stane Street. Main Road to east of Goodwood
A27 Shoreham-by-Sea, Upper shoreham Road. Contraflow between Kingston Lane and Holmbush Roundabout
Chichester
Arundel
Lewes
M27
Havant
A27
A27
A259
A259
A286 Town Lane and Kennel Hill. Main Road to west of Goodwood
Worthing
Brighton
Portsmouth
10 miles

- **PARKING** is free and ample, gates open at 6.30am. Car parking is alloted according to vehicle approach with local signs showing directions as early as A27. Try to be early as congestion is likely half a mile from car parks.

- **SUGGESTED ROUTES** From M25, leave at junction 10, take A3 to Milford and A283 to Petworth. From Petworth, take A285 to Halnaker then follow signs to Goodwood. From Southampton, Portsmouth, Worthing or Brighton, take A27 to Chichester and follow signs to Goodwood from bypass. From Petersfield and Haslemere, take A286 to Singleton. From Pulborough and Horsham, take A29 to A27, then as from Brighton

- **ROADWORKS** Hampshire — M27 both ways junctions 8 to 10 (Hamble A32), contraflow with three narrow lanes and 50mph limit. Surrey — M25, both ways junctions 8 to 10 (Reigate Hill A3), widening works with contraflow and 50mph limit. A3 Stag Hill near Guildford. Bridge works at A31 intersection. West Sussex — Shoreham-by-Sea, Upper Shoreham Road. Contraflow between Kingston Lane and Holmbush roundabout.

- **PUBLIC TRANSPORT** Train — nearest station Chichester (from Victoria). Taxis available. Bus — from rail station from 9.30am, leaving every half hour until midday. Return service between 3pm and 6pm.

- **RAC FM RADIO** Travel news on 87.7Mhz within 10 miles of Goodwood.

- **AND WHEN YOU GET THERE** Highlights include the Cartier "Style et Luxe" with cars from the great pre-1940 era; the Goodwood Rally Sprint starring Robbie head and Alister McRae; John Surtees world championship motorcycles with Barrie Sheene, Giacomo Agositini and Surtees himself; a display by the Microlease Extra 300L flown by Nick Wakefield and the RAC Centenary exhibition.

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IF YOU CANNOT FIND THE VEHICLE YOU DESIRE CONTACT YOUR AUTHORISED DEALER LISTED BELOW

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BERKSHIRE - S.G.T Alfa Romeo, Station Garage, Station Road, Taplow, (Near Maidenhead). Tel: 01628 605353

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DORSET - CASTERBRIDGE at London Road, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1NE. Julie Mullins 01305 250650

HAMPSHIRE - Cleveland Cars Ltd Ash St (A323) Ash, Aldershot Hampshire GU12 6LR. Phone 01252 334055

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STAFFORDSHIRE - Platts of Longton Lightwood Rd Longton, Stoke on Trent, Staffs, ST3 4JG. Tel: 01782 599400

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Aston Martin

KENT - Lancaster Sevenoaks Ltd 92 London Road, Sevenoaks, TN13 1BA. David Bradshaw 01732 456300

NORWICH - Stratton Motor Company (Norfolk) Ltd Ipswich Rd Long Stratton. Charlie Skelton Tel: 01508 530491

SURREY - H.W.M. LIMITED at New Zealand Avenue, Walton on Thames, KT12 1AT. Paul Spires 01932 220404

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AVON - DICK LOVETT at Portwall Lane, Redcliffe Way, Bristol, Avon, BS1 6NG 0117 929 2402. 0117 962 2727

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BEDFORDSHIRE - IVOR HOLMES 76 - 88 Marsh Road, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU3 2NJ. Contact 01582 576622

HERTFORDSHIRE - Specialist Cars London Road, Stevenage, Herts. Tel 01438 760200 Web http://www.specialistcars.co.uk/bmw/

KENT - Newmans of Canterbury Vauxhall Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1HA. Please Call 01227 454341

LONDON - COOPER BISHOPGATE 20 Paul Street, London, EC2A 4JH. For Any Information Tel: 0171 377 8811

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MIDDLESEX - Heathrow BMW Ltd Park House, Horton Road, West Drayton, UB7 8JD. Please call 0181 848 8866, 0802 611566

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ESSEX - London Road Mercedes 20-28 London Road, Romford. Tony Consuegra Sales Manager T: 01708 730484/Fax 748888

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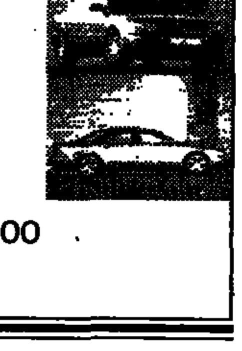

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96N Audi A4 2.6 SE. Blue Pearl. 7,000 miles
95M Audi A4 1.8 SE. Emerald Pearl. 39,000 miles. Leather. Air Con
97P Audi A4 Turbo Sport. Aluminium Silver. Black Leather
94L Audi 100 Estate 2.6 E. Emerald Green. 43,000 miles
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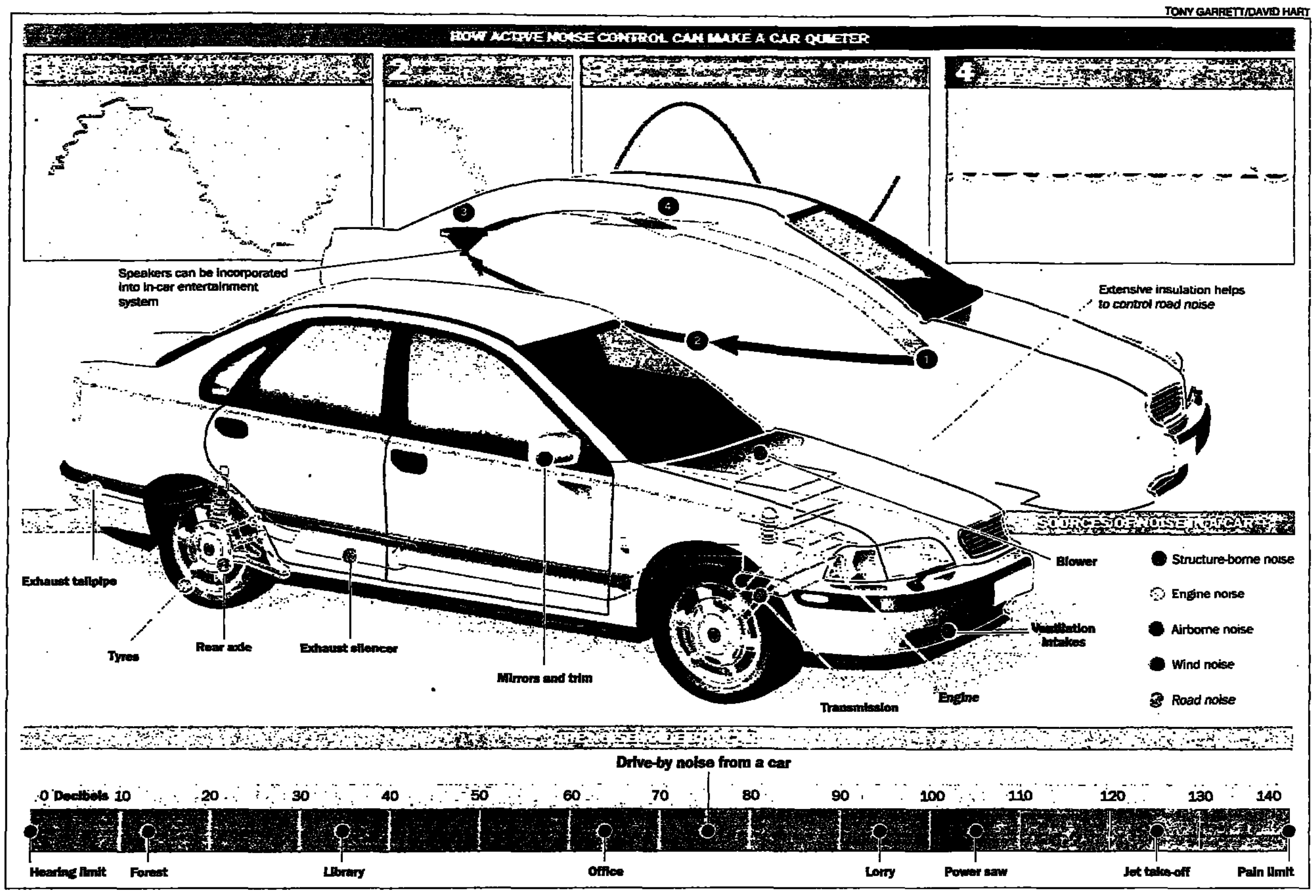
هكذا من الأصل

Stuart Birch wonders if programming cars to 'read' a driver's mind is fun rather than psychoanalysis

'Hello, this is your engine. Now I just want you to relax'

TONY GARRETT/DAVID HART



You are in a hurry. You are aggressive with the accelerator and brakes; corners are taken at speed, the engine revs to the red line.

But your car knows you well; it carries out a quick session of psychoanalysis, deciding that you are having a bad day and that your driving judgment may be impaired. Its computers and sensors have a "discussion".

Suddenly, the engine note becomes softer, quieter. The throttle might still be on the floor, but the car no longer *sounds as if it is taking part in* a grand prix; there is an ambience of calm. Subconsciously you ease off the speed, blood seeps back into the knuckles of your hands gripping the wheel; your heart rate slows, muscles relax. The car *has soothed you, made you* a safer driver.

Silly science fiction? "Not at all," says Rudolf Bisping. "We are creating pleasant sounds for safer driving."

Prof Bisping is an expert in the new science of automotive *pscyho-acoustics and* believes it has an important role to play in reducing accidents. A consultant psychologist, he is working with engineers from Vauxhall and Opel, General Motors' European arm, and acoustics specialists, researching *techniques* to create cars that will read a driver's mind, interpret mood swings and use sound as a calming influence — a potential antidote for road rage.

Already, automatic gearboxes are able to "learn" from the way a car is driven, to provide relaxed or sporty responses. Prof Bisping believes psycho-acoustics *will use similar* technology.

"A car would 'learn' the personality of its driver — in effect it would psychoanalyse him or her and take appropriate action to ensure safety and comfort by producing pleasant sounds in the car. A driver can not only see speed but can *listen to it in terms* of engine noise. We could reduce that noise — take the aggressive edge off it. For some cars though, which are quiet even when being driven very fast, *we could have added noise* transmitted to the interior to warn the driver. In both cases, the result would be safer driving."

Prof Bisping has been developing the theory for five years and GM has just invested £12 *million in an extensive acoustics* laboratory in Germany, where engineers are reducing the amount of noise cars contribute to the environment. Since 1980, legislation has ensured that new cars are 75 per cent quieter. With exhaust *and engine noise controlled*, the focus is on lowering tyre noise, now the major culprit.

But simply making cars as quiet as possible inside and out is not the total aim. Cars that make little external noise give virtually no warning to pedestrians of their approach and those with minimal noise inside may fail to communicate vital signals to the driver about rate of acceleration or speed. What is needed is "*noise management*".

For acoustics engineers, "noise" usually describes something undesirable, while "sound" is a pleasant experience. Active Noise Control *(ANC) uses good sounds to* cancel bad noise.

Engine, intake and exhaust noise in many cars — particularly those with four cylinders — often create annoying *vibrations or booms*. ANC uses microphones to pick up this noise, feeds it through a processor which calculates the anti-vibration factor needed and sends it back through the car's loudspeakers — cancelling the problem noise.

The technique has been known for more than 60 years but only one or two manufacturers have tried it. GM says its version is ready but it is not sure that customers would be willing to pay for it, at about £180. They probably would if they knew more about it.

Bernd Kessner, manager of Vauxhall-Opel's noise and vibration department, says the *job of psycho-acoustics is to* compose a defined background of sound.

"Noise can be an important safety aspect. A completely inaudible engine dilutes the impression of speed. A sound generator creates the noise *and varies it as a function of* the accelerator pedal and the engine speed, the loudspeakers of the audio system transferring it to the car's interior."

Breathing rate, heart rate, muscular tension and even hormone production may all be affected by noise or sound, which is where Prof Bisping and psycho-acoustics come in.

"We are trying to get cars to 'talk' in a certain way. A system might detect that a driver likes high engine speeds, which may be no problem on the autobahn. But when the vehicle's sensors detect that it is on perhaps, a slippery, winding road, they would regard such speed as unwise. So the system will try to contain speed by the subtle use of sound."

Bisping: five years' theory

> 'The car would take appropriate action to ensure safety and comfort by producing pleasant sounds'

One problem is ensuring the cabin is not quiet to the point where the driver fails to appreciate his speed. It is a complex equation, but even sceptical mechanical engineers are being won over to psycho-acoustics. They have spent decades taking noise out of cars — now they accept that there are circumstances when it can be beneficial to put back certain types of sound.

But what of people using sporty cars who are sufficiently responsible and competent to drive them hard and fast without the need for psycho-*analysis and hush-a-bye-baby* soothing?

I stepped into what appeared to be, except for some test equipment, a perfectly normal Vauxhall Corsa. I drove on to GM's Dudenhofen test track, accelerated hard — and the little car's subdued engine note was suddenly transformed into the roar of a Ferrari on full throttle.

"Would you prefer a powerful motorcycle?" asked the engineer with me in the car. The engine note changed to the high-revving wail of a superbike. "Or perhaps just a fairly powerful sports car?" Now the engine note became a pleasant growl and the Corsa, not a car renowned for its character, had acquired a whole new and far more interesting persona.

In theory this wonderful piece of sex-change technology could turn the world's most *effete car into a roaring monster* — on the inside. Outside it would be as quiet, self-effacing and environmentally responsible as ever.

Sadly, GM says it will definitely not be putting the system on the optional extras list. They feel it might incite people to drive beyond the design capability of their car.

Possibly. But a mild version would give some sporty, though acoustically bland, cars the sort of subdued growl that is often sadly lacking. So you might set off in the morning in Ferrari mood, or fancy a touch of Honda NSX, Ford GT40 or classic Alfa Romeo.

Sorry, Prof — it sounds fun rather than psychoanalysis.

KEVIN EASON BELLOWS FOR SONGS BY ELLA FITZGERALD BUT HIS DASHBOARD CAN'T HEAR . . .

My wife gives me no such problems

Sound barrier: demons in the system can cause frustration while you're driving — big lungs are the answer

TWO GROWN men in a car, one reading from a booklet, the other shouting furiously at the dashboard. John Cleese would have turned this into a sketch for *Fawlty Towers*.

You see, there is a point at which technology outstrips its usefulness to become nothing more than a gadget, a gizmo, a piece of equipment with no meaning beyond the fact that it can do a range of things, most of which you did not even know you needed doing.

So there were two earnest correspondents of this esteemed newspaper locked in battle with the latest gizmo: the voice control compact disc selector as fitted to a Honda Prelude.

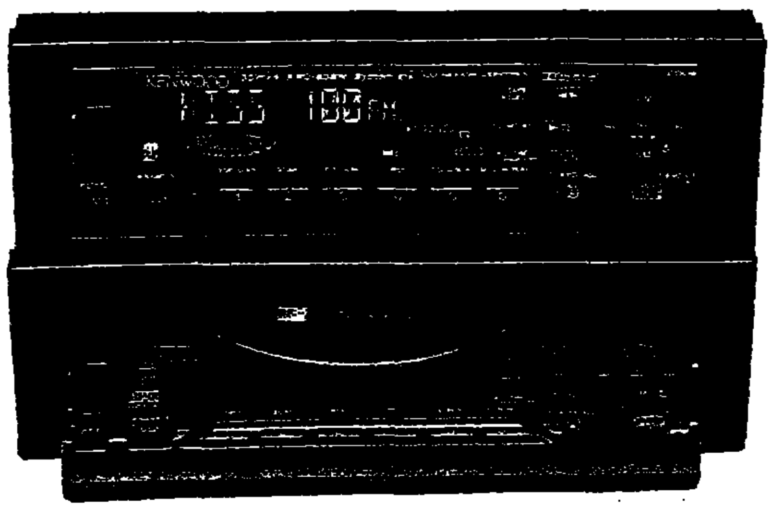
Instead of having to make that tiring motion of raising an arm to press a button or take a CD from its *container* by hand, the idea is that you shout into a little microphone and the machine does it all for you. (Actually, I always thought that was why we motorists took our wives along; you know, to supply the toffees and change the CDs. Never mind.)

Anyway, the trick was mastering the complex mechanics of the Pioneer system. With, what my family *tells me* is a mental age of 14, I have no fear of technology and will happily press buttons with the best until any piece of machinery is close to destruction.

But an hour of press-and-hope failed to result in the machine changing any disc in the boot-mounted cassette. So we *had* to resort to the instructions. And reading instructions for any electrical appliance is like trying to read the Bible in Hebrew: you know there's something good in there but can't work it out.

So, page 12. Ah yes. The chapter headed: "When you can't easily record or request *a CD name*". That's me.

"If the name is too long when you say it, you'll hear 'The name is too long'. Hmmm, fair enough. "The next time you say the name, shorten it by saying it fast."


Complex: more buttons than a *Come Dancing* contestant has sequins

There's a challenge if there ever was one. Right: CDs loaded, microphone on and now select a disc. Ella Fitzgerald seemed a tasteful choice, so try an auctioneer-style gabble: "ElFgld". Short and sweet. Now, a week on from this precision piece of computer priming, what are the odds that I am going to remember my inspired piece of naming or going to be able to pronounce "ElFgld" again? Exactly. There is no hope.

Maybe I was treating it all too literally and should have gone for something informal: just Ella, or El or Eh! Who cares?

Someone, somewhere has obviously mastered this device. I just know it and no doubt the letters will pour in doubting my credentials as a master of technology. But after hours of this ridiculous charade which had me playing Professor Stanley Unwin to the Honda's R2D2, I decided enough was enough; I could whistle the rest of the journey if need be.

There are no figures on how many accidents are caused by motorists fiddling with ultra-complex in-car stereos but, if mobile phones are deemed a menace, they must come a close second as a perilous distraction.

Check the display panels of some the latest sets and there are more buttons than a *Come Dancing* contestant has sequins on her frock. They can perform just about every function except put a man on the moon — but try seeking them out in the dark. Then your finger wanders the console as the simple act of dialling up Radio Five turns into a searching examination of your *co-ordinative skills*.

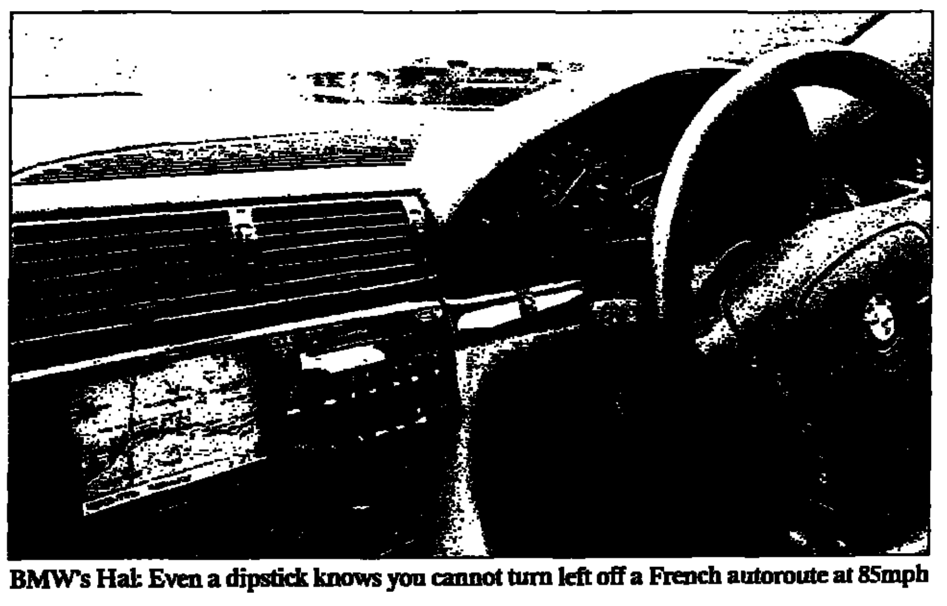
OBVIOUSLY, the best system is the one which works and is easy to use: Ford and BMW stand out as shining beacons among the car companies that have ploughed time and research into how the stereo console should operate and how much time it should take to engage the brain and make a choice.

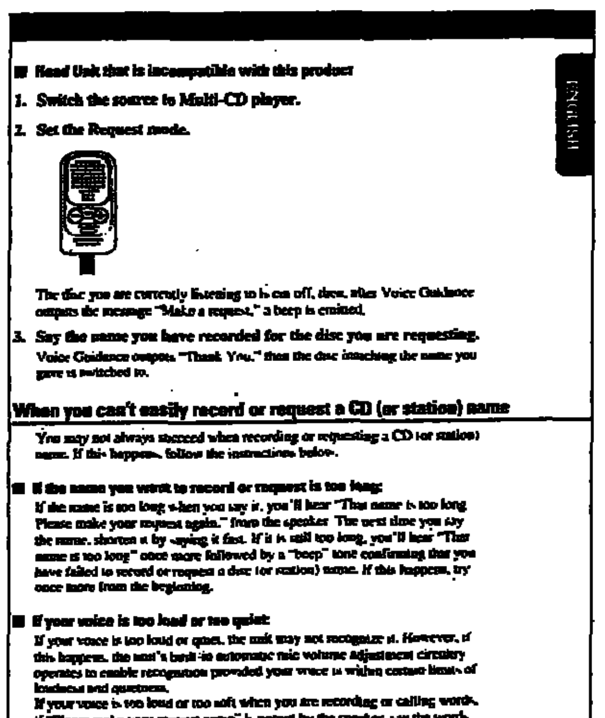
Both have systems with a simple line of buttons so big a blind man could hit them without the aid of a guide dog, they are easy to understand — and they sound fantastic.

A voice-activated system obviously *holds the potential benefits of keeping* the motorist's eyes on the road while shouting up some jolly ElFgld classics, but it only reaps rewards if the driver does not have to spend two days educating the system to receive commands.

And where will it all end? Sometimes I wish the Dansette was the technological zenith with its six record-changer and chunky needle. Now there was a machine that we could all handle.

. . . AND FINDS A £2 MAP MORE USE THAN TECHNOLOGY


BMW's Hal: Even a dipstick knows you cannot turn left off a French autoroute at 85mph



■ Head Unit that is incompatible with this product

1. Switch the source to Multi-CD player.
2. Set the Request mode.

The disc you are currently listening to is cut off, then, after Voice Guidance outputs the message "Make a request," a beep is emitted.

3. Say the name you have recorded for the disc you are requesting.

Voice Guidance outputs "Thank You," then the disc matching the name you gave is switched to.

When you can't easily record or request a CD (or station) name

You may not always succeed when recording or requesting a CD (or station) name. If this happens, follow the instructions below.

■ **If the name you want to record or request is too long:**

If the name is too long when you say it, you'll hear "That name is too long. Please make your request again." from the speaker. The next time you say the name, shorten it by saying it fast. If it is still too long, you'll hear "That name is too long" once more followed by a "beep" tone confirming that you have failed to record or request a disc (or station) name. If this happens, try once more from the beginning.

■ **If your voice is too loud or too quiet:**

If your voice is too loud or quiet, the unit may not recognize it. However, if this happens, the unit's built-in automatic mic volume adjustment circuitry operates to enable recognition provided your voice is within certain limits of loudness and quietness.

If your voice is too loud or too soft when you are recording or calling words, if "Please make your request again" is output by the speaker, say the words again at the same volume as the speaker's output. If the volume of your voice still prevents recognition, you'll hear a "beep" tone confirming your voice was not recognized. In this case, try again from the beginning. When retrying, first try speaking at the same volume level. If the unit still doesn't recognize your voice and you have to try again, it means your voice volume is beyond the level that can be adjusted by the built-in volume adjustment circuitry, so try again, speaking at a slightly different volume level.

Read me: something good, but you can't work it out

Misled by a blinking poor guide

TAKE *my* advice: buy a *£2 map before you set off* because the ethereal voice from beyond the dashboard is on a different planet. The Philips-BMW navigator system — a £3,355 extra, including dashboard telly and computer — uses a compact disc loaded with the latest national map while the car senses its speed and plots its position from satellites. That's the theory.

Trouble is that the resident Hal in the BMW 740iL which swished me to Le Mans last weekend seemed to be lost much of the journey. Even a dipstick knows you cannot turn left off a French autoroute at 85mph — but not Hal. "If possible, do a U-turn," he intoned later as we sped happily on a fast A-road to our destination guided by our paper-and-fold map.

Eventually, we put him out of his misery, switching off the blinking map and settling instead for soothing music to get us safely to the races.

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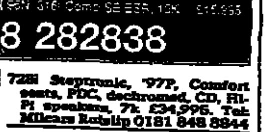

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CARMART: YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S NEW, AND WHAT'S USED, ON THE FORECOURTS

FORECOURT

■ SUMMERTIME is convertible time — good for Mazda. The Mazda MX-5 is fun, open-top motoring and as popular as ever, reports *CAP Black Book*.

The continuing popularity of the car is proven in excellent used values. Best buy is a 1.8i from 1992-93, which sold for £18,500 new and now costs around £12,000.

With the MX-5, Mazda set out to create a relatively cheap, rear-wheel two-door sportscar in the Lotus Elan tradition. With pop-up headlamps, 1.6 and 1.8-litre twin-cam engines and superb handling, it is a faithful recreation of the spirit of the Lotus classic.

The fold-down hood is remarkably wind and rainproof, and the 1.8-litre engine in particular is enjoyably responsive. Power steering, all-round disc brakes and alloy wheels aid performance, safety and looks.

There is a confusing array of special editions, starting with the Le Mans which marked Mazda becoming the first Japanese manufacturer to win the 24-hour endurance race. Only 24 of the turbo-charged specials were made and prices reflect its scarcity. The 1.8i Gleneagles and Merlot specials come with leather trim, wood dash and CD player.

Check for damp carpets or floor rust which could mean a leaking roof. Ensure headlights pop up. Side-impact bars became standard from January 1993, and driver side airbag from 1994.

Never mind the look, just feel the difference

Punto ELX: the ride is brisk and purposeful and for the driver who likes a challenge, twisting country roads can be a joy

ROAD TEST

Ian Morton on the new Punto

Fiat's Punto recently reigned as *Europe's* best-selling car yet sits only 12th in the UK popularity chart. Now the three-year-old range has been refreshed. Will we love it more?

If the chunky chiselled Punto lines have not already proved attractive, the latest revision will hardly swing things Fiat's way. Changed paint hues and fabrics and a scattering of colour-coded bumpers, new wheel trims and rubbing strips among various of the versions will hardly get us flocking in, especially as prices are up by 1.7 per cent to range from £7,763 for the basic three-door to £14,979 for the drophead.

But to judge on appearance alone would be to miss the point: the real story emerges on the move. The car deserves the courtesy of a test drive.

In its principal models, Fiat has achieved the *multum in parvo* contradiction with a singular dynamic flourish, replacing *the mainstream* 1.6-litre 90bhp unit with a 16-valve 86bhp version of the 1.2-litre unit, sharper, yet more economical. Add stiffer suspension settings and adroitly revised steering geometry and the models with this new engine — most importantly the ELX family five-door — are fluent as never before.

They have lost nothing of their Latin character in the process, for Fiat must observe the preferences of the domestic market which provides its power base. This little 1.2 whirls with a will, delivers 0-30 in three seconds, and 0-60 indicated in nine seconds if you really work at it and new layers of sound-proofing do little to contain its exuberance. What starts as a burly engine note turns into a snarl at 4,500rpm and a waspish blare as the 6,500 rev limit nears: if you can live with the noise, second gear punches you to 54mph, third shows almost 80 and fourth breaches 100.

Suspension has been modified to reduce body roll to zero and road-holding is obstinate beyond reason. The Punto just flows through the bends, cutting fast clean cornering arcs with neither sign nor chirrup of rubber. For the driver who likes a challenge, twisting country roads can be a joy. The ride is brisk, purposeful, and very much in keeping with the rest of the dynamics.

No changes have been rendered in the interior, beyond some cheerful new cloth designs. Within the curvy modern idiom it retains its spaciousness, its sound conventional layout, its relative simplicity. Those already enamoured of Punto — 48,000 were brought in Britain last year — will approve of what has happened to it.

PUNTO 85ELX

Engine: Four-cylinder 1.2-litre, 16-valve DOHC developing 86bhp at 6,000 rpm through manual five-speed gearbox.

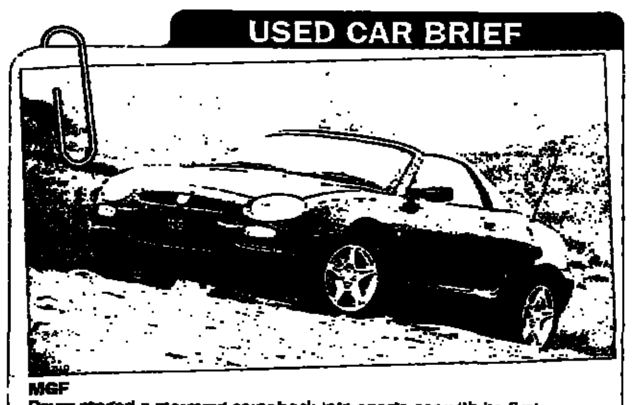
Performance: *0-60mph in 9 seconds, maximum 110mph.*

Economy: Urban 30.4mpg, extra-urban 54.3, combined 42.1.

Equipment: Remote central locking, four-speed heat/vent system.

Price: £10,853.

USED CAR BRIEF



MGF
Rover staged a storming comeback into sports car with its first genuine all-new MG since 1980, the MGF. Rave reviews show it carries the evocative octagonal badge with conviction. The mid-mounted engine is Rover's 16-valve 1.8-litre, four-cylinder K-Series unit which gives 120 brake horse power. The more powerful VVC (variable valve control) version produces a more emphatic 143bhp and provides the range with a real sparkler.

✓ **GOOD NEWS**
Is that the MGF is a real MG. Rover devalued the badge through the Eighties with ludicrously MG-badged Montegos and Maestros. The designers behind the MGF were given their heads to create a modern, safe, comfortable, but fun sportster in the spirit of earlier motoring. It works well.

⊘ **BAD NEWS**
Is the switchgear which comes from the Rover range, such as Metro and Rover 200. Enthusiasts would have demanded indentifiably individual equipment. The steering wheel is not height adjustable and tall drivers will find themselves having to duck to see under the windscreen top rail.

LOOK FOR
Optional fibre-glass hard tops which might not be needed now but come in very handy in tougher weather, and come with a heated rear window. The MGF soft-top is good at keeping out wind and rain but come the snows of winter even the hardiest driver might want something more protective.

AVOID
Cars with water leaking around the edges of the windscreen or along the tops of the windows. Tell-tale clues include any fading or staining of the door and dashboard trim where water might have found a way in. Check interior trim for looseness and also body panels for rattles.

△ **SAFETY**
Mid-engine layout gives excellent handling and road holding and safety is further enhanced by driver side airbag as standard, disc brakes, anti-lock braking (standard on VVC, and optional on 1.8i) plus speed sensitive power steering on VVC.

INSURANCE
Cover from *AA Insurance (0800 444777)* on a 1995 1.8i costs a 55-year old professional male, living in Winchester with full no claims, £226 a year fully comprehensive, a similar female £229. A 22-year old male, with one year no claims living in south London pays £1,179, a similar female £974.

PARTS
(Prices supplied by *Glassmatix 01932 823823)* clutch assembly £215; full exhaust £519; catalytic converter £254; rear damper £55; front brakepads £61; alternator £164; starter motor £228; radiator £147.

£ **PRICES**
Expect to pay around £17,250 for a 1995 N-reg 1.8i and £18,000 for a 1996 N-reg 1.8i (£500 to £600 lower if bought privately). The 1.8i VVC sells for around £18,600 for a 1995 N-reg and £19,500 for a 1996 N-reg (private £900 cheaper)

OVERALL
The 1.8i VVC is more expensive and faster, but not much, since the 1.8i delivers a 120mph top speed and goes from 0 to 60mph in under 10 seconds. While buying privately can save money, a full service history and dealer back-up is probably worth paying extra for.

SPARE PARTS

Rover's breeze of change

■ IF EVER a company needed a lift in this country to improve sales, it is Rover. No new models to speak of, no big announcements and continual doubts about the firm's future. Still, the company has made 250,000 of its 400 series saloons and hatchbacks and is adding air-conditioning as standard to most versions to try to blow a breeze through stagnant showrooms.

The 400 has never really captured the public imagination with sales steady, if unspectacular. The range seems imbued with Japanese-style common sense but little imagination, probably because it was the last product of the 16-year collaboration with Honda. New versions get seat-belt pre-tensioners, headlamp levelling and electric door mirrors to bring it into line with many competitors while prices range from £13,195 (on the road) to £18,095.

Rover 400: unspectacular sales

Volvo S40 T4: packs a punch

■ VOLVO simply can't help itself: in the wake of all those glamorous new high-performance models come upgraded versions of the S40 and V40. The new T4 is not quite the growling monster, like sister cars which have gone before, but with 1.9-litre turbo-charged five-cylinder engines, it packs 200 brake horse power to get from rest to 60mph in 7.3 seconds and has a top speed of 148mph.

Brakes, suspension and steering have all been uprated to make sure the Volvos are not only quick, but stay safely on the road, while prices will start at below £20,000 when the cars arrive in the autumn.

■ EVEN when the most attractive cars are apparently tucked safely away in the garage, they are still in danger. There are 2.5 million property thefts annually, including those when thieves breach the largely inadequate security in garages and make off with the cars inside. In comes the Autolok Stoppa, a rigid security arm which rotates with the turn of a key to secure the garage door to a base plate. Price £29.95.

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'We don't tell our friends what we do'

Helen Mound joins the girls taking on the man's world of motocross

Helen Mound receives expert advice from Geoff Mayes

MANNI MASON

From left, Kelly, Katheryne and Donna: a younger generation whose obsession with motocross will have to overcome prejudice and fear

Motocross is a man's world — or at least it was until girls like Katheryne Sherriff and Donna Cursons donned helmets and leathers and started tearing up the mud on their 100cc motorbikes in an attempt to break down the sex barriers in the sport.

The teenagers have been riding motocross for little more than six months yet are already challenging the theory that muscle makes motorcyclists, even though they are finding it tough to break male conventions.

"We don't tell many people at school about it in case the boys tease us," says Donna, who is 13. And perhaps that's why there are so few girls in motocross. Geoff Mayes, an instructor who runs schools around the country, says: "I teach a number of girls who eventually give up because they get teased at school."

Kelly Ward, 11, knows how to beat the intimidation. "By being very good," says her father, Doug. Kelly, who has been riding since she was seven, beats most boys her own age in competitions and, according to her father, "eats, sleeps and dreams motocross". Which is just as well because, like Donna and Katheryne, she admits she also hasn't dared to tell many of her schoolfriends about her sport.

Last year, there were nearly 100 entrants aged six to 18 in the British Schoolgirl motocross championship — but that's a tiny percentage of the estimated 50,000 motocross enthusiasts in Britain. Marion Walford, of the Motorsport for Women Club, says motocross simply doesn't appeal to women but many would enjoy it if they tried. Costs are relatively low: a second-hand bike is around £1,000 with another £500 for clothing and helmet plus race entry fees and practice days up to about £500.

"I took it up when I was 30 and loved it," she says. "But there are only about 20 adult women competing in the UK."

The Southern Motocross Club holds a ladies' championship often with fewer than 10 entrants, while the Northamptonshire club's ladies' championship was held last year with just four riders.

If there is to be female representation in this tough sport, then it seems it will have to come from a younger generation whose obsession will overcome prejudice and fear.

Kelly discovers there are no barriers out on the track, where she is capable of racing past bigger and much older riders with her balance and sheer determination. Her father drives her from their home in Sheffield to different competitions and practice venues every weekend. The family camper van has clocked up thousands of miles in recent years travelling to events.

"And when we're not at events, we're working on the bike," says Doug.

Kelly isn't the only successful young girl that has an all-consuming love for motocross though. Seven-year old Anna Myers, also from Sheffield, took up the sport last year and is already winning races. Her father, Dave, says: "She learnt to ride a bike almost before she could walk."

So how tough is it? I took a lesson with Geoff Mayes at Wildtracks in Newmarket, Cambridgeshire, and understood then why girls also want to enjoy the astonishing physical thrill of the sport.

You need grit, determination, stamina and a great deal of strength. The week following my session on a 100cc Kawasaki, my aching muscles were testament to the fact.

Stand up to take the strain of the most vicious bumps and your calves and thighs work as an additional pair of dampers. Keep your weight towards the front wheels for balance and your forearms, shoulders and back work overtime taking the strain as you accelerate.

The last thing I heard Geoff say as I roared off on to the junior circuit was: "Remember, don't turn your right hand too sharply because the throttle is sensitive and keep your arms and shoulders strong or you'll fall off the bike backwards."

Wise words from a former British motocross champion, so exactly why I didn't listen to him is a mystery. At my first corner, too much enthusiasm, too much throttle and too much leaning resulted in my being hurled ungracefully to the ground.

Thankfully, the body armour, underneath the Lycra suit, plus the soft track surface saved me and regularly help to prevent many serious injuries in motocross — though the key thing to remember is to get out of the way of your flying bike when everything does go wrong.

It was a rough introduction but Britain has never had a female champion in motocross outside of the schoolgirl championships. Hmmm, maybe an incentive for more lessons.

● *Classes with Geoff Mayes, using Kawasaki motocross bikes with full protective clothing, can be one-to-one or groups up to ten. Prices start at £45: 01379 854291. The Motorsport for Women club organises ladies-only days, including try-out days: 01323-899958*

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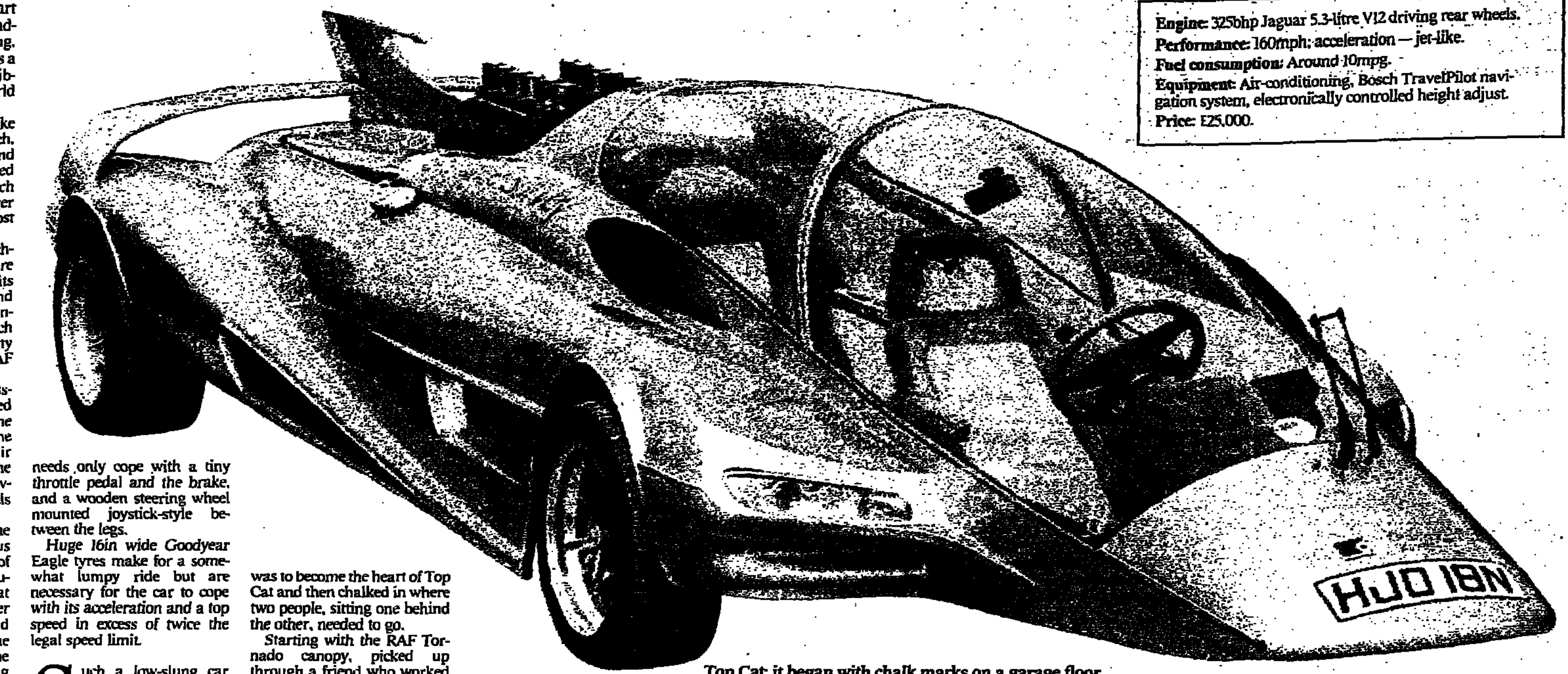
Take a bit of Tornado jet fighter, add some Jaguar and the result is amazing. **Vaughan Freeman** reports

Is it a plane? Is it a car? No, it's Top Cat



VAUGHAN FREEMAN

Top Cat: it began with chalk marks on a garage floor

Engine: 325bhp Jaguar 5.3-litre V12 driving rear wheels.
Performance: 160mph; acceleration — jet-like.
Fuel consumption: Around 10mpg.
Equipment: Air-conditioning, Bosch TravelPilot navigation system, electronically controlled height adjust.
Price: £25,000.

Part jet fighter, part Jaguar — and all madness, the 23-feet long, 160mph "Top Cat" is a gleaming missile-shaped tribute to the more eccentric world of bespoke motoring.

Nothing turns heads like this unlikely machine which, for all its bizarre styling and construction, is taxed, insured and has an MoT, is very much street-legal and draws bigger crowds than even the most exotic Italian supercar.

Jaws drop when the machine rolls by, for it looks more like a plane that has lost its wings than a car. Driver and passenger sit tandem-style inside the perspex canopy which in a previous life did duty protecting the pilot of an RAF Tornado aircraft.

Under the hand-built glassfibre body is the stretched running gear of a Jaguar. The 5.3-litre V12 engine sits at the rear, its shining chrome air intakes jutting up behind the canopy, and power is delivered to the rear wheels through a chain drive.

Getting in and out of the beast requires some serious contortion. The front half of the canopy lifts up on hydraulic struts, so that the rear seat passenger must scramble over the folded down front seat and under the back half of the Tornado left-over. Then the driver slides in before pulling down the canopy. Once inside, on a hot day before the air-conditioning kicks in, the sensation is like sitting in a mobile micro-wave cooker, not helped by the lush heat-retaining trim of the seats.

The perspex canopy creates the feel of a greenhouse-cum-goldfish bowl on wheels, but the view, despite the car's low-slung stance, is sensational. There are none of the usual restrictions like a metal roof or door pillars.

On the move, Top Cat rumbles into life, that huge Jaguar engine burbling behind you. Matched to a fully automatic gearbox, the driver needs only cope with a tiny throttle pedal and the brake, and a wooden steering wheel mounted joystick-style between the legs.

Huge 16in wide Goodyear Eagle tyres make for a somewhat lumpy ride but are necessary for the car to cope with its acceleration and a top speed in excess of twice the legal speed limit.

Such a low-slung car would normally have difficulties coping with bumps and speed humps, but a touch of a button activates the hydraulic system that lowers and raises the vehicle 10ins to enable it to clear obstructions.

Top Cat is the brainchild of graphic designer and car enthusiast Bill Carter, whose approach to its development was as unlikely as the looks of the end result. Instead of starting by sketching out the car on paper or computer, he began with chalk marks on his garage floor. He simply laid out the bits and pieces of the 1974 Jaguar donor car that was to become the heart of Top Cat and then chalked in where two people, sitting one behind the other, needed to go.

Starting with the RAF Tornado canopy, picked up through a friend who worked in the aviation trade, the second-hand hunt did not stop there: the headlights come from a Vauxhall Calibra and the single windscreen wiper from a JCB road digger.

To create the fibreglass body, all curves and sinuous flowing lines, Carter built up the shape using hundreds of pine strips over the car's skeleton to create the mould.

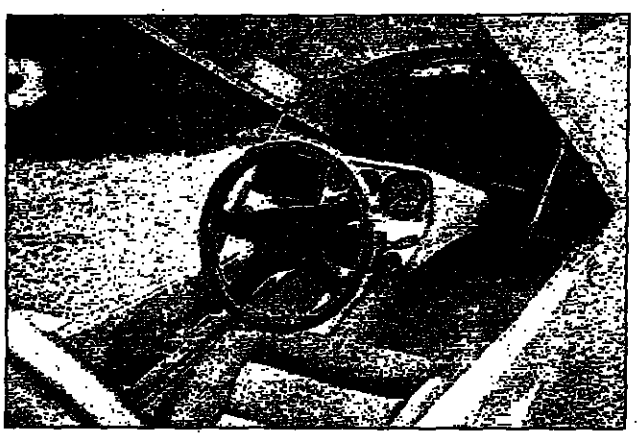
Carter, who works for Ordnance Survey and built the car as part of the organisation's exhibition programme, says: "As a kid I never had enough money to get things repaired so I had to do it all myself, and then started building cars to match my sense of humour. Top Cat is the tenth I have built. I started with the Tornado canopy, which is about the only thing I cannot make myself, and went from there. It took about 2,000 hours to build over 18 months, working nights and weekends, and more than half that was spent doing the bodywork.

"To be honest, I have always been a bit embarrassed by the car and would walk away from it quickly once I had parked. You feel awfully exposed in that bubble and if you get stuck in traffic it can be very embarrassing."

John Brown recently added Carter's extraordinary creation to his car and motorcycle collection, based near Royston in Hertforshire, where it has been sharing garage space with a 1924 Cadillac, a 1963 Bristol Beaufighter, a 1909 Renault two-cylinder AX Voiturette and a 1972 Ford Mustang, among others.

Brown has no such coy reservations about driving it. But why put such a car, which would surely be more at home in a futuristic TV puppet show, amid such a classic collection? "I have always dealt in vintage, veteran and classic cars, it is pretty much an obsession," he says. "I love buying and selling things that I enjoy. Which is why I bought this car, it is so extraordinary. It is so long it takes up two parking meter bays. It only does 10 miles to the gallon but it has some wonderful gadgets like the hydraulically-operated height adjustment. It really is a head turner.

"We went down to the fish and chip shop in it. There was a huge queue but everybody piled out into the street to look, which meant that we were able to nip in and get our supper without queueing."



The wooden steering wheel, mounted joystick-style

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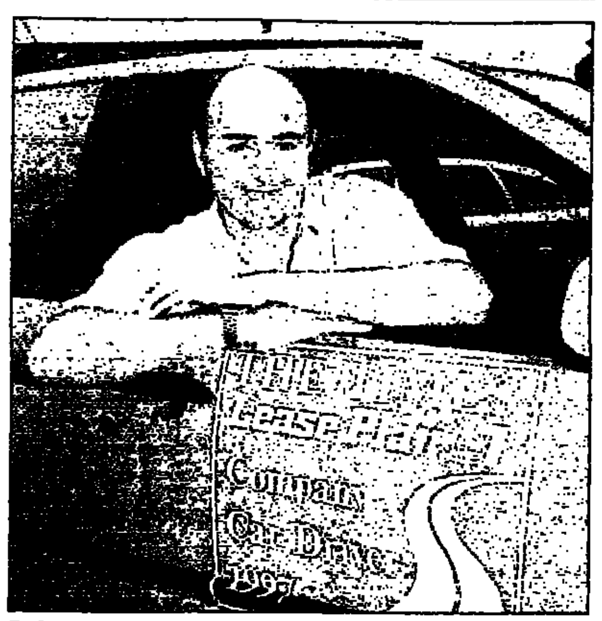
COMPANY CAR DRIVER COMPETITION UPDATE

Stephen chooses the right route to victory



Robson: "The company uses a computer for the job now"

Edwards: safety should be a priority for company drivers

■ THE importance of planning your route to avoid a last-minute panic and desperate driving achieved extra significance for Stephen Robson in *The Times*/ Lease Plan Company Car Driver of the Year competition. *Tony Dawe writes.*

His expert choice of roads and accurate timing for a theoretical business trip was the decisive factor which enabled him to win the final heat in Coventry.

He scored seven points more on the exercise than runner-up Ian Perry, who finished six points behind overall. They were neck and neck on the other tests which included braking, manoeuvring, fault-finding and on-the-road motoring.

Stephen's expertise was hardly surprising. He used to be the route planner for a fleet of heavy lorries delivering goods for Linpac Plastics before taking over as depot manager at Featherstone, Yorkshire.

"I still enjoy the challenge of planning a journey with 20 or 30 deliveries to different parts of the country, but the company prefers to use a computer to do the job now," he said. "My present job has cut down my company mileage to about 10,000 a year, but I still take a pride in my driving and enjoy taking my wife and two small boys to theme parks and the Lancashire and Yorkshire coasts."

Graham Edwards, winner of the other Coventry heat, is an equally enthusiastic driver and covers 45,000 miles a year in his Renault Laguna as a technical salesman for the Adhesives Division of National Starch and Chemicals, based at Slough.

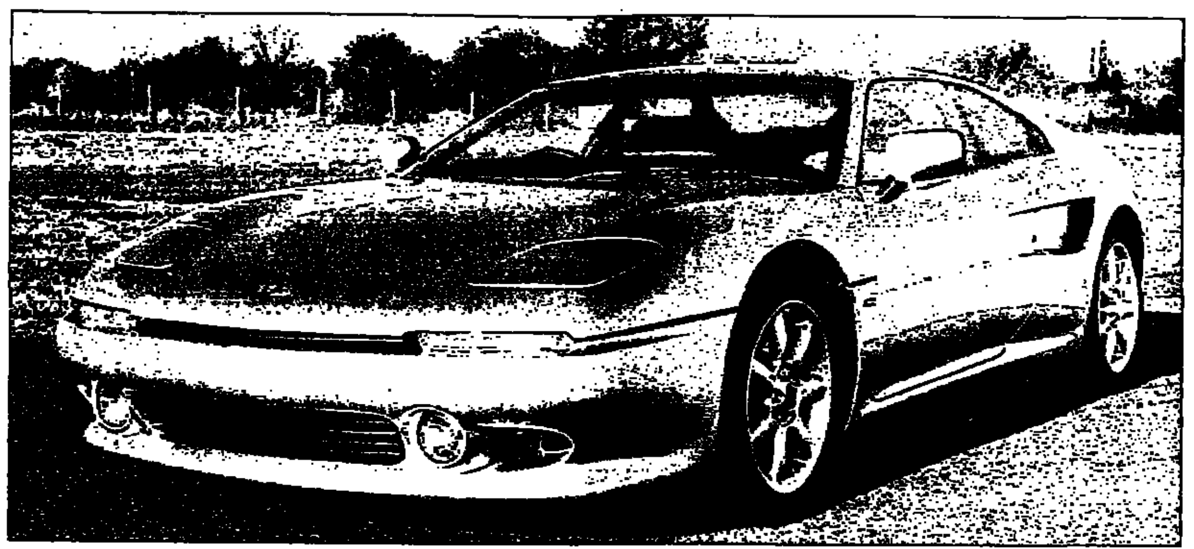
"I am on the safety action group which is keen for company drivers to regard safety as a top priority," he said. "We undergo driver training with Drive Tech and 40 of the 60 regular company car drivers at Slough have passed tests set by the Institute of Advanced Motorists or Rospa."

Graham's main concern now is that his wife, Barbara, who is expecting their second child in mid-July, does not deliver early and interrupt his appearance in the final of the competition at Silverstone on July 4.

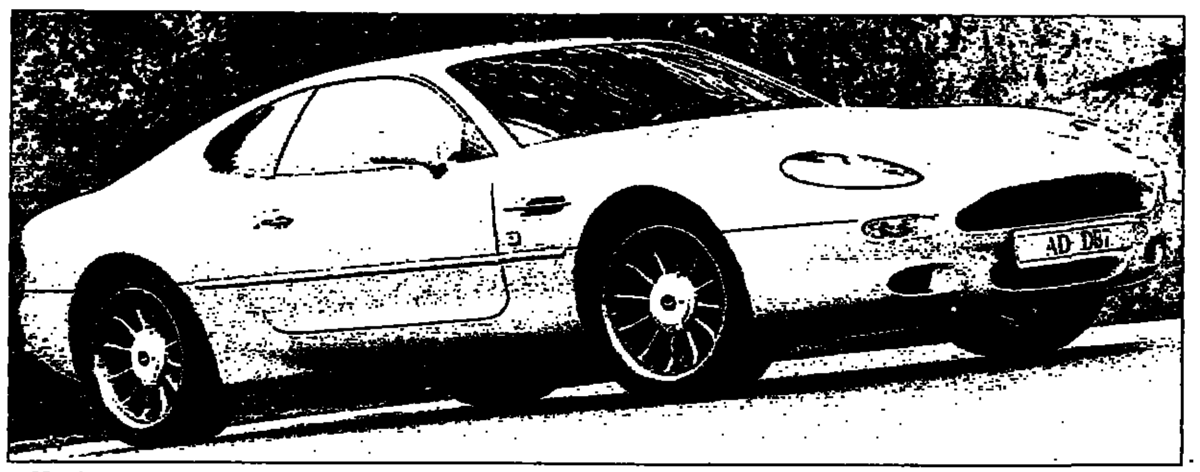
Travel in Atlantique style

A new generation of supercars is about to arrive in Britain.

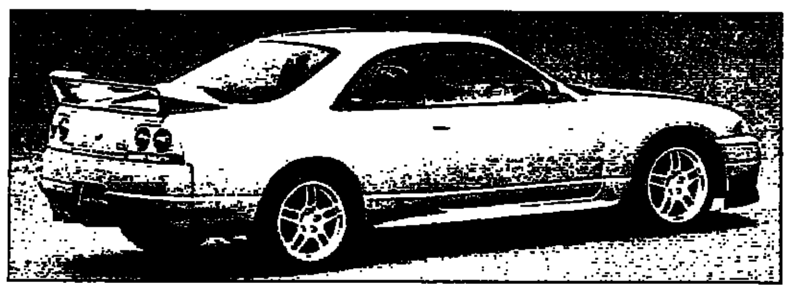
Tony Dawe reports



Venturi Atlantique: leather trim and walnut powered by a 174mph all-alloy 3-litre turbocharged V6 engine



Alfred Dunhill DB7: a humidor for fine cigars, a set of carbon fibre pens and a Dunhill Millennium watch



Skyline GT-3: the "budget" supercar, expected to cost around £50,000

The launch in Britain this week of the race-bred, French-built Venturi Atlantique confirms that supercar salesmen believe the nation is ready once more for models with speed and style. The Atlantique will be followed by the Nissan Skyline GT-R, the first "budget" supercar, expected to retail at around £50,000.

Just to emphasise that elegance is all in Royal Ascot week, Aston Martin Lagonda has unveiled a derivative of the DB7, created exclusively for Alfred Dunhill and complete with a humidor for carrying fine cigars, a set of the company's carbon fibre pens and a Dunhill Millennium watch set in the facia panel.

The two-seat interior of the Atlantique features traditional full leather trim and walnut, but most enthusiasts will be more excited by its power, provided by an all-alloy 3-litre turbocharged V6 engine. This produces 281bhp at 5,300rpm, enabling acceleration to 60mph in 5.5 seconds and a top speed of 174mph.

The supercar boasts a composite glassfibre body bonded to a separate steel chassis and is hand-built in a new factory at Coueron on the banks of the Loire near Nantes. Its pedigree includes a racing background and six finishes out of eight starts in the Le Mans 24-hour race.

The man behind its arrival is Nicholas Mee, a former Aston Martin sales executive who nows runs his own dealership in South Kensington, west London. He has taken delivery of the first right-hand drive Atlantique and predicts a waiting list of six to eight weeks for the £59,579 car.

"The new factory is currently building 250 annually and I would be delighted to take 10 per cent of that number," he said. "The car is exceedingly quick without being temperamental or excessively thirsty, is an absolute delight to drive and very attractive."

The Skyline, which has only been available in Japan, will be unveiled at the London Motor Show and on sale in Britain from November 1 — with supply limited to 100. The "budget" supercar is also powered by a race-proven engine, a 2.6-litre, straight six, 24-valve unit capable of around 280bhp at 6,800rpm. It also features advanced vehicle control systems including four-wheel drive and Nissan's Super HICAS four-wheel steering system.

Brian Carolin, Nissan's marketing director, said: "Getting behind the wheel of the Skyline GT-R is one of *the* great driving experiences. We see it as a standard bearer for the rest of our range of vehicles."

The Alfred Dunhill DB7 will definitely not be for sale but will go on display at a series of company events worldwide this year. In addition to the humidor and carbon fibre pens, it displays design features from other Dunhill products incorporated in door handles, surround for the boot release, gear lever and wheel centres.

"We hope that this is just the beginning of a long and fruitful relationship between our companies," Bob Dover, Aston Martin chairman, said. "We are both traditional British companies with unique expertise, pedigree and experience in the design, manufacture and sale of bespoke tailored products."

But he knows that the French and Japanese are eager to challenge this reputation for style.

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